Daily Report

Central Eurasia

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Russia: Yeltsin Appeals to Zyuganov's First Round Voters

LD2706100396 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0814 GMT 27 Jun 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 27 Jun (ITAR-TASS) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin appealed today to the electors who voted for Gennadiy Zyuganov in the first round. The appeal received by ITAR-TASS says:

"Dear compatriots,

"I appeal to those of you who supported Gennadiy Andreyevich Zyuganov, candidate from the Russian Federation Communist Party, in the first round of the elections.

"As head of state, I will do everything under the Russian Federation Constitution to enable you to express your will and vote freely for your candidate.

"As guarantor of the Constitution, I will do everything to see that the second round of the elections is definitely held and that it is peaceful, open, and honest. I had to take the toughest of decisions so that there is not even a hint of the elections being cancelled or postponed.

"On 16 June you voted against me.

"This is your right. As president, I respect your choice, the choice of free people.

"But I think, nevertheless, that you voted not so much 'for' our past way of life as against the difficulties of our present life.

"It is said that the human memory usually remembers only the good. When life became hard and troubled, our past began to seem to many people not only better than the present, but even better than the future.

"But did ordinary people really live so well under the old system? Can even elderly Russians remember a time when there was a plentiful supply of everything within the country? In 70 years, that never happened. Only the party bosses lived well.

"Many people remember the cheap bread, but they have grown so used to the stores being full that they have forgotten the coupons and the shortages. They have forgotten about the compulsory party meetings, the workplace courts, and the uniformity of thought and word. There is much they have forgotten about. And some have simply grown weary, become confused or lost, and are frightened that they will now have to do many things for themselves.

"Of course, there are miscalculations on the part of authorities behind the fact that such a mood has spread to a proportion of our society. We should have trusted people more and should have told them openly about the state of our country and our economy and what needed to be done and why everything was not so simple.

"The leaders of the Communist Party offer simple solutions. This attracts people. Is somebody living in poverty? Take away from a well-off neighbor. High prices? Set low prices and print more money for everyone. Factories are working poorly and there is no discipline? People used to be exiled or shot for this. And so on and so forth, on all the issues.

"The new way of life envisions responsibility of everyone and not just of the state for what is happening in the country. This is not simple. Especially when real and tangible changes are not happening overnight.

"The danger is that the politicians gathering the tired and disappointed people under the banners of a return to the past are in fact pursuing only their own interests, far removed from the needs of Russia and its people.

"Look more closely at those who are again urging you to stage actions of protest and 'nationwide indignation'.

"For years many of them have been at the helm of the [Communist] party and state leadership and called themselves the proud name of 'party nomenklatura'.

"Did their activities do much good to the ordinary communists? You all know the answer even better than I do.

"And now? Have they done much in the past five years? They did nothing but criticize.

"But criticism alone does not get you far. It is so easy to criticize and to destroy, to distribute and to take away. It is much more difficult to build.

"The hardest period is now over, and life is beginning to improve. Everything you aspire to — restoration of the economy, revival of the army, establishment of a real union with the former Soviet republics, restoring Russia to its proper place as a great world power — is gradually becoming a reality. But the ultimate goal can only be attained through hard work on the part of all the citizens of Russia, which has always been strong because of its collective spirit. And only if we to not let a split develop.

"I am confident that all reasonable people, including honest communists, will support my striving for stability in society.

"We must not allow the mood of frustration, fatigue and bitterness flood the whole country. If politicians come to power catching this wave of despair, we are heading for trouble.

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"This must not be allowed to happen.

"I am confident that today those who really care about the future of their Fatherland are thinking about something else, something more important than discrepancies in their programs and slogans.

"Nevertheless, I am confident that we must and we shall find common grounds to unite us.

"Honor and conscience, patriotism and civil responsibility, desire to preserve peace and accord in society — these are the strongest foundations for bringing all Russians together and uniting them.

"The most important thing which will always make us unanimous is our love for Russia, for our own land, our concern about the future of our country and the future of our children.

"We all have the same past, and there is no point in dividing the country into the Whites and the Reds. I am prepared for dialogue and cooperation with all those, for whom the main priority is Russia's future.

"I do not accept only those who are overwhelmed by malice and by thirst for revenge, those who have not understood or learned anything. For the sake of Russia's future, for the sake of our children's future I am calling on you to forgive each other and not to vote against the new way of life however little you may be accustomed to it.

"You are a strong and wise people. Many of you suffered the war, destruction, and famine. You chose your own life and your own destiny. Give your children a chance to chose their own future. Heed the voice of your heart."

Russia: Yeltsin Appeals for Small Town Vote

LD2706084496 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0725 GMT 27 Jun 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 27 June (Itar-Tass) — President Boris Yeltsin today urged people living in Russia's small towns to take an active part in the second round of the presidential elections on 3 July and to vote "for Russia, for the prosperity and flourishing of our great and small Motherland [the country as a whole and each person's local area], for our future, and the future of our children."

The appeal to people living in small towns, which has reached ITAR-TASS, says:

"Dear fellow citizens:

"I am appealing to you, the inhabitants of Tarusa, Urzhum, Maloyaroslavets, Artemovsk, Sretensk and many other small, but glorious towns of Russia.

"For 1,000 years, you have been the salt of the Russian earth. You have defended and sustained it. You have repulsed enemy hordes. You have risen again after being burned down. You have traded. You have sent out explorers across the seas and oceans. You have raised great citizens, who have multiplied our Russian glory.

"You have always lived with the interests of your country at heart. But for how long have your own lives and your interests been ignored by the state!

"All resources and means were channeled first of all to major centers. This led to the situation when people worked conscientiously but were not able to use the fruits of their labor.

"Now is the time for the revival and flourishing of our small towns. We must not let it happen again that you will continue to live in poverty, bearing a grudge against your neighbors and against the federal center.

"It is the government that must ensure social protection, and display concern for its citizens and order in Russia.

"As the president of Russia, I have always paid and will continue to pay special attention to these issues.

"Russia has everything necessary for her vigorous development, for a leap forward to become a flourishing country. We have gained our freedom. Now it needs to go together with a better social protection, with wealth, and a more honest and fair life.

"The policy is clear. New people have come into the team. I recently approved a special program for the revival and development of small towns. The work goes on every day.

"Your support and your trust are now much needed!

"The final, and decisive, round of the presidential elections will take place on 3 July. I ask you all to go to the polling stations on that day.

"Vote for Russia, for the prosperity and flourishing of our great and small Motherland, for our future and the future of our children.

[Signed] "Boris Yeltsin, president of the Russian Federation"

Russia: Yeltsin, Regional Leaders Discuss Election Preparations

LD2606115496 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1141 GMT 26 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, June 26 (Interfax) — A meeting of Russian republican, territorial and regional leaders has started in Kremlin under the chairmanship of Boris Yeltsin to discuss preparations for the

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second round of presidential elections, well-informed sources told Interfax.

The meeting is underway behind closed doors, and correspondents were invited only for a protocol shooting, they said.

The president is expected to make a statement and voice his concern over the progress of preparations for the voting, said the sources.

Those at the meeting said several plant directors had announced July 4 and 5 days off which may result in an outflow of voters on election day. "This is a dangerous symptom," they said.

The president is expected to put forward proposals for boosting the elections campaign.

The presidential press service will distribute a detailed report on the meeting later today.

Russia: Yeltsin: 'Major' Reshuffle To Take Place After Elections

LD2606131196 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1228 GMT 26 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, June 26 (Interfax) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin told a group of Federation Council members Wednesday [26 June] that people brought to the fore today rather than yesterday or the day before yesterday should join the country's authorities.

The recent dismissals and appointments in the top echelons of power are in line with his policy of consolidating the presidential structures, Yeltsin said. A major reshuffle will take place after the elections, he said.

The meeting discussed the political situation in the country in the runup to the second round of the elections, the presidential press service told INTERFAX. Yeltsin said that the elections have to be carried out in a calm atmosphere "without excesses or upheavals."

No effort should be spared, without overdoing it, to convince the people to turn out for the elections, he said.

He said reports are reaching him that certain interest groups are trying to bribe the electorate to stay away from the voting. In some factories July 4 and 5 have been made paid holidays in an attempt to divert the workers from the elections, Yeltsin said.

Yeltsin said that he had signed a decree on the setting up of a Political Advisory Council on which representatives of parties, movements and religious organizations will serve. This body will advise the president and government and reconcile the interests of various political groups.

Russia: Yeltsin Stresses Need for High Turnout in Second Round

LD2606140796 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1336 GMT 26 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, June 26 (Itar-Tass) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin today met a group of members of the Federation Council upper house of parliament led by House speaker Yegor Stroyev in the Kremlin to discuss the situation in the country ahead of the upcoming presidential election.

"Our common task is to wind up the election campaign and hold elections in a calm atmosphere without excesses or shocks," Yeltsin said in his opening address. For this, it is necessary to ensure adequate turnout, which Yeltsin sees as pivotal for the second round of the elections. In the first round, Yeltsin defeated his main rival, communist leader Gennadiy Zyuganov, by a narrow margin in the last two hours of the ballots.

"Everything must be done to ensure high turnout," Yeltsin stressed and called upon those present "to spare no effort in convincing, organizing and using every opportunity without overdoing things."

The President said he had been informed that attempts were being made at buying votes with handouts or sidetracking people in order to prevent them from voting in the elections. At some enterprises, the management offered employees to use June 4 and 5 as paid leave days, he said.

Yeltsin noted that he regarded the meeting with the lawmakers as an expression of support of the reform policy and pointed to the consolidation of the country's different forces on a platform of stability, democratic law and order and continuation of effective transformations. He said the process must influence the authorities and the situation in the country in a positive way. The process of consolidation is advancing faster and more successfully in many regions of the country than in its centre, he said. In this context the President said he was counting on the regional leaders to stimulate and further encourage the process.

"Members of the Federation Council represent not parties or movements but the entire population of their regions. For this reason the upper house must play a more significant role in the fate of the country," Yeltsin said.

"I am prepared to enhance our interaction which I think to be the most important condition for strengthening concord in society," the President stressed.

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He thanked the Federation Council for its firm stance on the Land Code and noted that "despite all efforts made by the State Duma (lower house), you did not pass the Land Code without (a provision for) private land ownership."

As concerns recent reshuffles in the top echelon of power, the head of state said he was pursuing a clear-cut policy aiming to strengthen presidential structures. "The main decisions will be made after the election," Yeltsin stressed. He said people would come to power who reflect the present-day state of affairs, not that of yesteryear.

The President said he had signed an edict on Tuesday setting up a Political Consultative Council which will bring together representatives of parties, movements and religious organisations.

The new public body is designed to draft recommendations to the President and the Government and coordinate interests of different political forces.

The meeting in the Kremlin was attended by the leaders of the following republics — component parts of the Russian Federation — Kabardino-Balkaria, Karelia and Mordovia, the governors and administrators of the Astrakhan, Perm, Penza, Yaroslavl, Rostov, and Volgograd regions, the Krasnoyarsk and Khabarovsk territories, the leader of the Chukotka autonomous area and the Mayor of Moscow.

Russia: Zyuganov Broadcast Invites Yeltsin to Public Debate

LD2706085796 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0445 GMT 27 Jun 96

[Election broadcast by Communist presidential candidate Gennadiy Zyuganov; date not given — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] Esteemed fellow countrymen, I represent the national patriotic bloc which received the support of 25 million voters. The present authorities say that democracy has become established in the country. Democracy is primarily dialogue and responsibility and over a period of many months I have been trying to call on my main opponent to take part in a dialogue. He continues to refuse, saying that our programs are not modern ones and that we are trying to drag people backward.

I do not think that the millions of voters voted for us to move backward or for there to be gulags and long lines. Not at all. We propose a modern program which has been published and made public and which, unfortunately, we are unable to acquaint you even before this round of the election.

Yesterday, I put forward an interesting initiative, to create a Council of National Accord and a Government of Popular Trust. I proposed signing a pact which confirms that Russia is a country with its own specific features, that the main attention should be directed to supporting all forms of property and economic activity, science, culture and education, that the country should be united since for all of us it is has the same land, the same sky, the same neighbors, and the same towns.

At the same time, I do not see any reciprocal movement from the other side. Mr. Yeltsin constantly refuses to have meetings and dialogue with us. And in my view this is not without reason.

You were recently subjected to stress. You saw Mr. Chubays appearing on the television screen at night and saying that there were coups under way in the country. In effect there are no coups. There are only favorites who continue to manipulate Mr. Yeltsin — and I state this with all responsibility.

I recently reviewed all the incidents of our tragedy of the past four years and I came to the conclusion that he does not like communicating with the electors. There was the time when on the eve of the bloody October events when a dramatic situation was unfolding which could have been halted. An appeal was made to you, not by Mr. Yeltsin but by Mr. Gaydar, to take up arms. But we appealed to those involved to halt, to disperse peacefully and to sit down at the negotiating table.

There was a time when our children were dying in Tajikistan. They died over a period of 16 hours when a border post was being bombed but the commander in chief Mr. Yeltsin kept quiet although in that time it would have been possible to bring a special purpose battalion from the Far East and save our troops.

There was the time when the war began in Chechnya but Mr. Yeltsin lay in hospital, having repairs to his nasal septum, and today we are paying with bloody victims for this excess.

There was a time when Budennovsk was seized, troops were being killed and a whole hospital was held hostage and even women in childbirth. But Mr. Yeltsin was abroad meeting the G-7 and did not take measures to guarantee the security of his citizens.

I have the impression that now, too, during the election campaign everything is being done to hush up our position. You see, 48 hours per day, from morning to night, we wake up with Mr. Yeltsin and go to bed with him. Meanwhile, talented people of Russia are unable to set out a different point of view on the process going on.

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We have a program, we have a team. I have proposed a procedure for forming a government — one third from the national-patriotic forces, one third from the existing government and one third from the other forces represented in the State Duma and whom you trust.

I believe that if we today do not cease our efforts when the country is split, when the slump in our national product is twice as great as the losses in the Great Fatherland War, then we may lose our homeland. [sentence as heard]

I assure you that if on this occasion we do not manage to halt these excesses the situation may get even worse. Therefore I am calling on all of you to vote in the elections and to familiarize yourselves with our programs and proposals, and then we will devote all of our next programs to that. [sentence as heard]

As for Mr. Yeltsin, surrounded by his prompters and assistants, he is obviously afraid of meeting me on the air. I am now inviting him once again to this meeting. For I believe that by refusing to meet me, he shows disrespect not only for my electorate, millions of my voters, but also for those who voted for him. I would very much like to have a chat with him on problems relating to how we can stop the war in Chechnya and what we should do to raise our national industry, culture, and education. We have the opportunity to meet each other in front of you, and I hope this meeting will take place. Thank you. Good bye.

Russia: Zyuganov Accuses Yeltsin of Using Illegal Campaign Methods

LD2606123996 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1215 GMT 26 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, June 26 (Interfax) — Illegal methods of running the election campaign practised by President Boris Yeltsin may cast doubts on the results of voting, Communist presidential candidate Gennadiy Zyuganov, representing the Popular-Patriotic Bloc, told a press conference in Moscow Wednesday.

"The leaders of Russia's constituent territories have been instructed to ensure Yeltsin's victory in the second round at all costs," reads out a statement from Zyuganov addressed to the Central Electoral Commission, to both houses of the Russian parliament and to the mass media. Similar instructions have been given to the Russian ministers and to the commanders of some branches of the armed forces, he said.

"The president's men have made banks contribute and donations to Yeltsin's campaign have increased to trillions of rubles," Zyuganov said.

He blamed the mass media for fanning hysteria, and the leaders of the state-run ORT [Moscow Russian Public Television First Channel Network] and VGTRK [expansion unknown], and independent NTV TV companies for "instigating ethnic enmity and civil war."

He also announced that he had urged Chairman of the Central Electoral Commission Nikolay Ryabov to help him organize direct TV debates with Yeltsin "on any channel and at any time."

At the same time, Zyuganov sent Ryabov his analysis of ORT, VGTRK and NTV programs which in his opinion are aimed at discrediting him as a candidate. "Ryabov promised by telephone that he would discuss this question at today's session of the Central Electoral Commission," sad Zyuganov.

Russia: Zyuganov 'Satisfied' With Response to Coalition Idea

LD2606141996 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1350 GMT 26 Jun 96

[By Lyudmila Aleksandrova]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, June 26 (Itar-Tass) — Gennadiy Zyuganov standing for the Russian presidency from the people's patriotic bloc has expressed satisfaction today with the response made by political and public circles to his initiatives he put forward on Monday to form a national trust government and sign a national accord pact.

"I am rather satisfied," Zyuganov said in an interview with Itar-Tass. "As for separate statements whether someone will or will not join the government let us wait until July 4," Zyuganov said. (The second round of the presidential elections will take place on July 3.).

Zyuganov, who is celebrating his 52d birthday today, read out two documents to journalists: an appeal to members of the Federation Council and deputies of the State Duma, representatives of the Central Election Board and the mass media and an open letter to chairman of the Central Election Board Nikolay Ryabov, in which Zyuganov "categorically insists" on immediate measures to be taken "to ensure really equal conditions for the candidates."

Zyuganov asked Nikolay Ryabov "to render assistance in the organization of live TV debates" with Boris Yeltsin.

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Russia: Zyuganov Says Media 'Whipping Up Civil War' in Campaign

LD2606170396 Moscow NTV in Russian 1500 GMT 26 Jun 96

[From the "Segodnya" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Announcer Tatyana Mitkova] And now for the preelection actions of the communists. Presidential candidate Gennadiy Zyuganov celebrated his 52d birthday today. He spent part of the day in the State Duma where he met journalists. Many of those present heard him speak sharply of the mass media which they represent. To all appearances, the opponent of the present head of state, should he be defeated, will lay all the blame for that on the press and television. Here is a report by Yevgeniy Revenko.

[Revenko] Gennadiy Zyuganov is celebrating his birthday today, but he did not manage to hold a party. It was namely on this day that the leader of the communists discovered those who are whipping up civil war. It turned out at the news conference that it is the press who is carrying out subversive actions. Zyuganov said the mass media, especially recently, is whipping up psychosis and hysteria.

[Begin Zyuganov recording] The radio and television have essentially embarked upon the path of whipping social strife and civil confrontation. The leaders of television and radio companies, the editorial offices of Sagalayev [head of Russian TV channel], Blagovolin [head of Russian Public TV], and Malashenko [head of NTV] bear responsibility for this. [end recording]

[Revenko] Gennadiy Zyuganov was mainly indignant over the biased treatment of preelection material, which has caused the candidate irreparable damage. It followed from what he said that criticism of the opposition bloc is endangering the stability of society.

[Begin Zyuganov recording] If Blagovolin, Sagalayev, and Malashenko continue that policy, consider them to be the main instigators of civil war in the country. [end recording]

[Revenko] Moreover, Zyuganov thinks the electoral campaign is not honest and there are violations of the law on the presidential elections. In connection with this, the candidate stated that the results of the voting for Boris Yeltsin may be thrown into question. The leader of the communists said he had sent to the Central Electoral Commission the relevant documents and at the same time had asked Nikolay Ryabov [central electoral chairman] to help organize TV debates with the president. So it turned out that the search for those instigating war had not got in the way of the communist leader's peaceful organization. He said he was satisfied with the way that consultations on the proposed pact were proceeding.

[Begin Zyuganov recording] I am very satisfied. As for individual statements as to whether they will join or will not join, let's wait until 4 July. [end recording]

[Revenko] At the same time, the active members of the union of officers also held their own consultations. Honorary guest Valentin Varennikov passed on to the delegates greetings from Zyuganov after which he called upon the military to move in the correct direction in the second round. In his opinion, the bloc which has been created is quite sufficient for victory.

[Begin Varennikov recording] What there is already is enough for victory. They only thing is that scheming may somehow correct the situation in the favor of Yeltsin. [end recording]

[Revenko] In his turn, the veterans' spokesman asked his colleagues to work more actively.

[Begin Varennikov recording] In a single file, with a single understanding, with unanimity in literally every question and specific work in the localities! [end recording]

Russia: Zyuganov 'Already Worried' About Political Future

MM2606151496 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Jun 96 p 1

[Report by Stepan Kiselev: "Zyuganov Late Again"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Many analysts are predicting a rapid political demise for Gennadiy Zyuganov in the event of his losing the presidential election — his party comrades, as is customary for Communists, will cease to be his comrades and will consume their leader as soon as that leader displays any weakness. Consequently, Zyuganov, knowing the ways of his comrades-in-arms, is already worried not so much about his election campaign as about his "life after life." And we need to note the rare inventiveness that the Communists are demonstrating. At least the idea of a "national accord pact" and the creation of a council of national accord, which was announced by Zyuganov a few days ago, does not lack ingenuity and will indeed extend the political life of Communist leaders in a democratic country.

The leading Communist's gravitation toward peace and social accord have been assessed in the opposing camp. At least, the statement adopted by the All-Russia Movement of Public Support for Yeltsin Coordinating Council "notes with great satisfaction" that Zyuganov has finally taken on board and "supports proposals

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and initiatives which were implemented by the Russian Federation president two years ago." This refers to the Treaty of Social Accord, which the Communists refused to sign in March 1994. Understandably, they did not sign it because the initiative was Yeltsin's. But today the Communists are proposing for society with the ardor of converts the very course that they recently rejected.

On 26 June Boris Yeltsin adopted a decision transforming the Russian Federation president's Social Chamber into the Political Consultation Council. It is understandable that through this retaliatory move he is negating the Zyuganov camp's initiative. The edict states that the council is being set up "in accordance with the proposal from a number of political parties and movements," primarily those which failed to clear the 5-percent hurdle in the State Duma elections, but amassed around 49 percent of the vote in total. Ivan Rybkin will most probably be chairman of the Consultation Council.

Russia: Poll Shows Yeltsin Probably To Win With 70-Percent Turnout

MK2706111496 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 27 Jun 96 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Who Will Win on 3 July?"]

[FBIS Translated Text] According to the results of a Russia-wide poll conducted on 23 June by the Russian Independent Institute of Social and National Problems, Boris Yeltsin will score a confident victory by 54 percent to 38 percent provided the turnout is 70 percent.

He will win 50 percent of the votes of A. Lebed's supporters, 60 percent of the votes of G. Yavlinskiy's supporters, and 25 percent of the votes of V. Zhirinovskiy's supporters.

More than 40 percent of the LDPR [Liberal Democratic Party of Russia] leader's supporters are going to vote for Zyuganov.

A turnout of 60 percent would appreciably reduce B. Yeltsin's chances of winning: from 60 percent to 44 percent.

The poll's results will appear in more detail on Saturday in the June NG-STSENARII [NG SCENARIOS] supplement to NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA.

Russia: Sociologist Says Yeltsin Leads Zyuganov by Only 2 Percent

LD2706102196 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0951 GMT 27 Jun 96

[By Lyudmila Aleksandrova]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW June 27 (Itar-Tass) — A leading Russian sociologist believes that incumbent President Boris Yeltsin is likely to win the second round of elections, but with a narrow gap of only two per cent in case the turnout is over 60 per cent.

Dmitriy Olshanskiy, the head of the Centre of strategic analysis and forecast, told a press conference on Thursday that Yeltsin is likely to get 45 per cent of votes in the second round, while his communist rival Gennadiy Zyuganov will trail with 43 per cent. 12 per cent of the ballots are expected to be cast against both candidates.

Olshanskiy quoted the latest research of his centre and said that much would depend on the turnout which is predicted to be 60 per cent with a four per cent error margin. "The turnout less than 60 per cent increases the chances of Gennadiy Zyuganov, over 60 per cent — the chances of Boris Yeltsin", he said.

Olshanskiy believes Yeltsin will get most votes of Aleksandr Lebed and Grigoriy Yavlinskiy, who were the third and fourth in the first round, while most supporters of the fifth candidate, ultra-nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovskiy would vote against both candidates.

According to his predictions, 30 per cent of Lebed's supporters will vote for Yeltsin, 24 — for Zyuganov and 16 — against both candidates. Lebed got 14.5 per cent in the first round or nearly 11 million votes.

45 per cent of Yavlinskiy's supporters will vote for Yeltsin, 23 — for Zyuganov and 11 — against both candidates. Yavlinskiy got 7.3 per cent in the first round or over 5.5 million votes.

14 per cent of Zhirinovskiy's voters will back Yeltsin, 28 — Zyuganov and 33 would vote against both candidates. Zhirinovskiy got 5.7 per cent in the first round or 4.3 million votes.

Russia: Turnout Need Not Exceed 50 Percent for Valid Election

LD2606124796 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1222 GMT 26 Jun 96

[By Igor Belskiy]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW June 26 (Itar-Tass) — To win the second round of Russia's presidential elections a candidate does not need to get over 50 per cent of the turnout, but has to simply get more votes than his rival, the Central Election Commission explained on Wednesday.

There is only one condition. The winner has to get more votes than the number of ballots cast against both candidates, Commission member Yuriy Vedeneyev told Tass.

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The turnout, in contrast to the first round, does not need to exceed 50 per cent for elections to be valid.

Vedeneyev said that if the second round does not provide a winner, new elections are to be held in four months since the first round and candidates are to be again nominated.

However, the law specifies that those candidates cannot run for the second time whose "actions or inaction became the reason for recognising the election as invalid", Vedeneyev said, but refused to comment whether that meant that incumbent president Boris Yeltsin and communist leader Gennadiy Zyuganov would be unable to participate in new elections.

Russia: First Round Vote in North Caucasus Shows Yeltsin Weak

MK2606131596 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 26 Jun 96 p 3

[Report by Yekaterina Sytaya: "Yeltsin's Victory Is Problematic"]

[FBIS Translated Text] According to Central Electoral Commission Federal Information Center figures, between 1 and 1.5 million more people voted for Boris Yeltsin than for Gennadiy Zyuganov as a result of the first round of the presidential elections. At the same time, the CPRF [Communist Party of the Russian Federation] leader picked up the biggest number of votes in more than half of the republics that make up the Russian Federation. The turnout in the North Caucasus was rather high in comparison with the State Duma elections last year. The lowest turnout at that time was a bit higher than 50 percent (Ingushetia).

On 16 June, about 70 percent of the voters turned up at the polls in Ingushetia. Ingushetia and Kabardino-Balkaria supported reforms voting for NDR [Russia Is Our Home] in the 1995 December elections. This year Boris Yeltsin won 45.7 percent of the vote and Gennadiy Zyuganov, 25.47 percent. Ingushetia President Ruslan Aushev, however, thinks that the lead is not too big and may prove "a bad start" for the incumbent head of state in trying to win the second round.

A similar situation has taken shape in Kabardino-Balkaria. The majority of voters also voted for NDR at the State Duma elections with a turnout of 68.4 percent. Boris Yeltsin picked up 43.67 percent at the presidential elections in Kabardino-Balkaria and Zyuganov won 37.25 percent. Aleksandr Lebed received 9.8 percent of the vote there and Grigoriy Yavlinskiy 3.35 percent. The remaining candidates won under 10 percent. The turnout was about 72 percent, and in some regions it was 86, 82 and 76 percent.

There has been practically no change in the voters' stance in Adygey, Karachay-Cherkessia, Krasnodar, and Stavropol Krays, which were firmly opposed to Boris Yeltsin during the State Duma elections. Most of the 66.5 percent of those who came to the polls in Adygey cast their ballots for the CPRF. This year, Gennadiy Zyuganov picked up 51 percent with Boris Yeltsin getting as little as 20 percent. The turnout there was 65.7 percent. After 1600, it already topped 60.9 percent, the figure recorded as a result of the last year's elections.

In Krasnodar Kray, where the turnout at the parliamentary elections was 62.7 percent, the turnout in June was 67 percent. Boris Yeltsin won 26.7 percent there and Gennadiy Zyuganov, 39.88 percent. Aleksandr Lebed placed third; he even came right behind the Communist leader in a number of rural areas. The Russian Federation president's campaign manager in the Kuban [Krasnodar Kray] S. Voronin, despite the fact that Gennadiy Zyuganov came in ahead of Boris Yeltsin, winning more votes in the rural areas, the bulk of Krasnodar voters support reforms. Summing up the percentage points won by democratic candidates for the position of Russian federation president (B. Yeltsin, A. Lebed, G. Yavlinskiy, and S. Fedorov) they picked up 6 percent more votes than the Communists. S. Voronin thinks that it is premature to speak of the Communists' victory in the Kuban as well as to include this region among those comprising "Russia's Red Belt." One of the elements which considerably worked for the victory of the Communist leader is that the Kuban has as many rural dwellers as it has urban dwellers and the percentage of ballots cast for Zyuganov reached 60 percent precisely in rural areas.

The turnout in Stavropol Kray reached 73 percent (67.2 percent last year). According to the information of Viktor Limanov, kray electoral commission chairman, the turnout figures up and down the kray are higher than they were in December 1995. The turnout in Stavropol was 62.16 percent; in Pyatigorsk, 64.49; in Nevinomyssk, 59.6; and in Mineralnyye Vody, 61.05. The turnout is even higher in the rural areas: in Grachevskiy Rayon, 70.23; in Ipatovskiy Rayon, 70.22, in Kurskoy Rayon, 77.43; and in Novoaleksandrovskiy, 71.46. According to Kray Prosecutor Yuriy Lushnikov, the Communists' success in the first round of the elections is largely explained by the low standard of living in the population and a number of "unsolved crimes, some of which have been committed by authorities."

Dagestan and Ossetia were regarded as less opposed [to the government] in the 1995 elections. Observers recorded at that time a rather low turnout of between 55.8 and 56 percent. In the presidential elections in Dagestan Boris Yeltsin won 29.3 percent; Gennadiy

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Zyuganov, 64.9 percent; Grigoriy Yavlinskiy, 1.7 percent; Aleksandr Lebed, 1.4 percent; and Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, 1.1. The remaining candidates got under one percent. It is necessary to note that in 1991 Boris Yeltsin won 65.86 percent there, only to see that as soon as in April of 1993, 84.1 percent voted against the Russian Federation president. According to Dagestan's head Magomedali Magomedov, this situation resulted from the people's disenchantment with Yeltsin's policy in Chechnya. The conflict in the neighboring republic left Dagestan in complete isolation, with the border sealed by federal troops in the north and south. All in all, 67.1 percent of the voters came to the polls in Dagestan. Interestingly, turnout varies from rayon to rayon and from town to town. For example, the turnout in Agulskiy and Novolakskiy Rayons was 81.9 percent. In the highland rayons, where the number of voters is small, the turnout was considerably less. In Tlyaratinskiy Rayon, for example, as few as 26.5 percent of the voters cast their ballots.

In North Ossetia, the turnout was 69.1 percent (56 percent last year). Boris Yeltsin won 19.53 percent; Gennadiy Zyuganov. 63.15 percent; and Aleksandr Lebed, 9 percent. The biggest turnout was recorded in the rural areas. By 1800 on 16 June, 67 percent of the voters cast their ballots in Ardonskiy Rayon; 66 percent in Mozdokskiy Rayon; 66 percent in Prigorodnyy Rayon. Citizens of the Ingush nationality in the village of Chermen of Prigorodnyy Rayon, refused to go to the polling station situated in the Ossetian part of the village. Members of the electoral commission had to take ballot boxes to the Ingush part of the village. As a result, voting did take place there.

Russia: Communists Seen Ending Up With No International Allies

MK2606123596 Moscow MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI in Russian
No. 25, 23-30 Jun 96 (signed to press 24 Jun 1996) p 5

[Analysis by Sergey Karaganov, doctor of historical sciences, Presidential Council member: "Diplomacy: Communists Leave Without a Fight"]

[FBIS Translated Text] It seemed a year ago that at the election the opposition would give the president battle over the foreign policy. This did not happen.

Disputes were mainly going on abroad. At first, several schools took shape there. Advocates of the first one said: "Russia has crossed the line where it was still possible to revert to a totalitarian economy and policy, for which reason the coming of the Communists is not terrible; they only have to be integrated and domesticated a bit. The followers of the second school were a small but still rather influential "Cold War guard." It did not manage after all to adjust to a world without customary confrontation and customary enemy and wanted a return of the Cold War even if it should be a farce. For them, the coming of the Communists would mean keeping their political and intellectual positions, a chance not to become superannuated.

Both schools have fallen flat, however. The first saw that the Communists are simply incompetent, and should they come to power, they would virtually inevitably end up destabilizing the economy and then the political life of a nuclear power. The first school proceeded to virtually fall apart. Members of the second went into intellectual underground: They did not stop dreaming, whereas speaking about their dreams became totally indecent. Finally a third school won in the rest of the world: politicians who thought right from the start that a Communist victory would spell not only an inevitable catastrophe for Russia but also a tragedy for the rest of the world.

As a result, the Communists ended up in almost complete isolation: There is virtually no single country, no single serious political force to back them, excepting absolutely incorrigible foes of Russia. Even the latter now back the Communists in secret.

The almost total absence of foreign policy debates inside the country comes from the appointment of Yevgeniy Primakov to the post of foreign minister. Almost right off, the tone in which Russia's foreign affairs partners used to talk with Russia began to change noticeably: from scornful and overly familiar to irritated-respectful and simply respectful. Russia began to regain influence in the regions where its influence pays the most: the Middle East and in relations with China. Seriously increased the possibility to delay NATO's expansion: the dialogue came to be conducted in a different tone and on a different turf. Most importantly, Russia began to seriously restore positions in the ex-USSR, the integration processes sharply picked up. Not according to the "let's-restore-the-USSR" principle," but according to the "let's-restore-what-benefits-Russia-and-its-people." As a result, the Communists were unable to give battle they hoped for. It became clear that it would be a bout between a light-weight and a heavy-weight pro. The victory was won without a fight.

But it is too early to rejoice. It is necessary to win the election, following which the president and Primakov would still have a number of tough tasks to handle: to restore (through joint efforts of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the presidential apparatus) the system of day-to-day coordination and planning of foreign policy, to restore interaction between the Foreign Ministry

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apparatus and embassies and, finally, to strengthen the country's international positions where it pays and brings dividends to the people of Russia and Russia's economy.

And the most important thing. If the election is won, Russia will have for a brief time a "window of opportunities" to put forward a program of expanding international relations. Clearly, no one is going to fight for us for our interests. The international community has proven unable to even intellectually leave the postconfrontation era and enter an era where it is necessary to build a new world for the future.

If Russia proves unable to offer a new policy, we would all stay in the old policy. It would be very hard to defend and advance our interests there.

Russia: Rutskoy Denies Possiblility of Civil War After Elections

LD2606132196 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0435 GMT 26 Jun 96

[Address by Former Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy; place and date not given — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Let us ask ourselves just one question: who are we, are we a herd, a crowd on which an experiment, a foolhardy and irresponsible experiment can be carried out? [passage omitted]

If any dispute arises among us it is not the aims we disagree about but the methods of achieving these aims. This is a healthy dispute, a healthy confrontation between the authorities and the opposition. Therefore, you know that everyone today is free to decide for themselves without being prompted by anyone. We have had enough of all of this mockery which is being put out by the mass media which over-emphasizes one side and makes out that there is no alternative to it. We have heard enough about the communist threat because in history there are no examples when history and society turned backwards. You cannot step into the same river twice. No one intends to drag anyone backward.

And then I shall say this to you. When they try to frighten the people by saying that if the communists come to power — first of all just a minute, I am not a communist. I was excluded from the party and I ceased to be a communist. It is my right to decide what view to have, it is my right. But has one of the largest sociopolitical organizations, the Ascendancy movement, supported Gennadiy Andreyevich only because he is from the Communist Party? No, just a minute, this is the bloc of patriotic forces.

Our opponents shout that if we come to power there will be a civil war. But a civil war has been going on for a long time now. Just look: the death rate exceeds the birth rate by 2 million. That is, 2 million die and not one extra is born, is that not war? In the 18 months of slaughter in Chechnya 38,000 soldiers and officers and about 100,000 of the civilian population have been killed. Is that not civil war?

And look at the blood which has flowed through the Dniester region, through Ossetia, Abkhazia and Tajikistan, is that not civil war? The homeless children, the beggars, the prostitution, the drug addiction, the open banditry — is that not civil war? And tell me about even one crime that has been cleared up. Is that not civil war?

We do not intend to start any war. On the contrary we intend to stop these excesses. And believe me, I have been through the mill and I surely know about these things, unlike them. Perhaps we shall not manage to achieve everything but I am sure, I stress that I am sure, that we shall manage to deal with this existing humiliating situation. It is simply a humiliating situation.

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Baltics: Baltic Presidents, Clinton Discuss Closer Relations

WS2606121696 Tallinn BNS in English 1034 GMT 26 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Washington, June 26 (BNS) — Presidents Lennart Meri of Estonia, Algirdas Brazauskas of Lithuania and Guntis Ulmanis of Latvia met with U.S. President Bill Clinton in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington Tuesday.

President Clinton expressed America's interest in the sovereignty, independence and security of the three Baltic states, and underscored his admiration for the progress these nations were making toward rejoining the Western democratic community.

He praised the courage and determination with which Estonians, Latvians and Lithuanians, in their homelands, in America and around the world, had struggled for and regained independence.

The four leaders discussed the progress the Baltic states had achieved in transition to the free market and democracy and pledged to work together to support that process.

"We had a very positive assurance that the first members of an expanded NATO will not be the last," Estonian President Lennart Meri told reporters after meeting Clinton in the Oval Office of the White House.

The four heads of state expressed the view that the enlargement of NATO represents a key element in the integration of Europe and will increase security for Europe as a whole, White House officials reported.

"President Clinton reiterated that the first new members of an expanded NATO will not be the last and that the process of NATO enlargement will be open to all of Europe's new democracies and threatening no one," a White House statement said.

Presidents Meri, Clinton, Brazauskas and Ulmanis discussed ways of working for closer contacts and expressed satisfaction at growing cooperation in the framework of the Partnership for Peace program, the IFOR program in Bosnia, the U.S. President's Warsaw initiative for security cooperation, BaltPat and others.

The meeting was one of the highlights of the three Baltic presidents visit to the United States and the three presidents' first meeting with the U.S. president in Washington, after the restoration of their countries' independence.

President Meri told BNS that the three presidents highly appreciated the time Clinton had devoted to them, as well as their joint discussion of Baltic security problems. Clinton mentioned it as a positive fact that the three Baltic states gave priority to their accession to NATO, and the U.S.-Baltic relations in achieving priorities had never been as good as they were now.

President Meri told The Voice of America: "Clinton said the process of NATO enlargement is open to all those who are interested. President Clinton stands staunchly for the freedom, indpendence and inviolability of the Baltic states, and this policy, common to the United States and Western Europe, can also consistently be carried out."

Clinton underscored Estonia's lead in terms of economic and infrastructure development.

On Wednesday the Baltic presidents are scheduled to meet with U.S. Secretary of Defense Willian Perry.

Baltics: Baltic Presidents Meet U.S. Defense Secretary Perry

LD2606191296 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1600 GMT 26 Jun 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Lithuanian President Algirdas Brazauskas stressed that the issue of NATO expansion has become the issue of relations between West and East; therefore, the future relations between East and West depend on how the problem of expansion of the North Atlantic Alliance will be resolved.

This issue was discussed today in Washington at the meeting of the heads of the three Baltic states with U.S. Secretary of Defense William Perry, which was held in the Pentagon.

Alfonsas Eidintas, Lithuanian ambassador to the United States, told the ELTA news agency that at this meeting the same issues were raised as in the meeting on 25 June with President Bill Clinton. William Perry once again assured the presidents of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia that NATO's door was open to all the states that would like to join this organization. The importance of the U.S.-Baltic joint military exercises was emphasized at the meeting and also the U.S. material and technical assistance to Baltic states' peacekeeping unit Baltbat, which is currently being set up.

Mr. Perry stressed that the United States and NATO were interested in cooperation with Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia.

The issue of the amendment to the Conventional Forces in Europe treaty was also raised at the meeting. The Baltic states are concerned that if the amendments are confirmed, more Russian military hardware will be deployed on the border with the Baltic states.

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However, Mr. Perry believes that the amendments do not pose any threat to the security of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia. He bases his opinion on the calculations and conclusions of experts. When the amendment to the treaty is made, in general, armament will be reduced on the European continent which will be beneficial to the security of Europe and, therefore, to the security of the Baltic states, the U.S. defense secretary said.

Algirdas Brazauskas, Guntis Ulmanis [Latvian president], and Lennart Meri [Estonian president] expressed their condolences to the families and friends of the U.S. servicemen who died in the terrorist bomb attack in Saudi Arabia.

After the meeting with William Perry, the presidents of the three Baltic states left for the Capitol where they met members of the U.S. Congress.

CIS: ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 27 Jun

LD2706055396 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0541 GMT 27 Jun 96

["Press Review" — ITAR-TASS headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW June 27 (ITAR-TASS) — Follows a review of Thursday's Moscow-based Russian newspapers dated June 27. The press highlights politicians' moves ahead of the presidential election runoff.

IZVESTIYA writes that Boris Yeltsin had a telephone conversation last Monday with Grigoriy Yavlinskiy who had dropped out of the presidential race. In this connection, the newspaper points out two important circumstances.

"Firstly, the President called up the leader of the 'Democratic opposition' on the next day after the 4th congress of the Yabloko movement ended at Golitsyno near Moscow.

"Secondly, the telephone conversation was held after the President's meetings with Aleksandr Lebed and Viktor Chernomyrdin, at which 'Yavlinskiy's name was mentioned', as the newspaper's correspondent was told by Kremlin sources.

"It is not difficult to suppose that the question of possible and acceptable offers to Yavlinskiy was discussed by the president with Lebed, who as has already been reported, offered his mediation between the President and the leader of the Democratic opposition and that this question was being fixed during the meeting with the Premier."

ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA gives the opinion of First Vice-Premier Oleg Lobov, who believes that "a voter turnout in the Presidential election runoff will be the indicator of the prestige of Russia's regional leaders".

ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA reports that Boris Yeltsin has issued a decree resolving to transform the Public Chamber to the President into a Political Consultative Council. This decision has been made on a suggestion from a number of political parties and movements to improve cooperation between Federal power bodies and the public at large in establishing a legal basis for economic and political reforms.

ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI announces that young voters will be able to hear the President's address to them on Thursday. The address will be broadcast by all leading radio stations of the country.

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA on future jobs for Korzhakov and Barsukov.

"Aleksandr Korzhakov, former chief of the Presidential Guard Service, who was dismissed six days ago, still occupies his Kremlin office.

"It has become known that in the near future Korzhakov will possibly be given an important State post — it is not ruled out that he will become a Deputy Chiefs of the Presidential administration while his friend Mikhail Barsukov is pegged for a tour of duty in far-off Brussels. Over there, he will possibly represent Russia in NATO's military structure".

IZVESTIYA on the disappearance of Alla Dudayeva.

"Can Alla Dudayeva turn up in Finland?" asks the newspaper's correspondent, who for the second week has been looking for the disappeared widow of the Chechen president. He is being assisted in the efforts by the newspaper's own correspondent in Scandinavian countries, who checked the version that Alla Dudayeva ostensibly applied to Finnish authorities in a request of a political asylum.

IZVESTIYA on fines to be paid by Danish truckers for violating the rules for transporting imported merchandise into Russia.

Danish truckers will have to pay 15 million U.S. dollars for a violation of the rules for transporting imported merchandise into Russia. In point of fact, it is a question of punitive sanctions for a large-scale smuggling of merchandise, including commodities, on which excise duties are to levied: tobacco and alcohol, the newspaper writes.

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Russia: Foreign Ministry Condemns 'Terrorist Act' in Dhahran

LD2606135796 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1321 GMT 26 Jun 96

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Yuriy Kozlov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 26 Jun (Itar-Tass) — The Russian Federation strongly condemns the terrorist act carried out at the U.S. military base near Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, where a powerful explosion took place last night, a Russian Foreign Ministry statement says. The statement was received by ITAR-TASS today.

The document says that there are many casualties among U.S. servicemen. Such provocations, the document stressed, cannot be justified whoever the organizer and perpetrator of the crime might be. The incident should be thoroughly investigated.

The Russian Foreign Ministry statement expresses the hope that "the terrorists will be unable to upset the situation in Saudi Arabia or cause a new aggravation of tension in the Persian Gulf."

"Russian servicemen," the document said, "have been frequent targets of fighters and terrorists. We know from experience that terrorism cannot be stopped without fair international cooperation. At the Sharm al-Shaykh summit Russian President Boris Yeltsin set out a concrete program for joint efforts in this field."

Russia: U.S. Experts Help Draw Up Nuclear Emergency Manual

MM2606142496 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 0700 GMT 21 Jun 96

[From the "Vesti" newscast: Video report from Kola nuclear power station by G. Smirnova, identified by caption; figures in brackets denote broadcast time in GMT in hours, minutes, and seconds]

[FBIS Translated Text] [071311] [Smirnova over video of exterior, interior of Kola Nuclear Power Station] For the past four years Kola nuclear power station staff have been actively cooperating with specialists from the United States under a program entitled "Symptomatic Guidelines for Operators in Emergency Situations."

Let us not close our eyes to the fact that nuclear power stations remain potentially dangerous facilities. Now Russian and American specialists have drawn up a sort of step by step guide of what to do in emergency situations. The manual contains detailed instructions to be followed by operators in emergency situations which may arise.

[P. Danilov, Kola Nuclear Power Station head of Public Relations Department, identified] Detailed step by step instructions for these situations have been drawn up. The operator knows what to switch on, what to switch off, what to check....

[Smirnova over more footage of interior of Kola station] This program will be introduced at nuclear power stations in the CIS, Russia, and East Europe. [071406] [video shows exterior, interior of Kola power station including machine and control room, Danilov interview]

Russia: CIA Seen Taking Covert Action To Curb Russian Arms Exports

MK2706072196 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 25 Jun 96 p 2

[Report by Igor Korotchenko under the "Competition" rubric: "The United States Is Worried About Russian Exports. Washington Wants To Thwart Russian Arms Deliveries to Latin America"]

[FBIS Translated Text] A considerable increase in the volume and range of Russian arms and military hardware exports as well as Moscow's climb to become the world's second arms exporter in 1995 have caused a serious concern within the U.S. political leadership. According to President Bill Clinton's instructions, formalized as a presidential directive, the priority assignment given to the U.S. intelligence community for 1996 has been to track the arms export transactions negotiated by Russia, focusing efforts on exposing at an early stage Russia's negotiations with the states of Near and Middle East, South East Asia, the Mediterranean, and Latin America.

For the purpose of preventing and thwarting Russia's most important transactions, the CIA Operational Directorate has been keeping track of the course of negotiations between the Russian Federation and Cyprus (a contract for the delivery of 40 T-80 tanks and SA-10 air defense systems); Malaysia (18 MiG-29 combat fighters in addition to an already delivered batch); the United Arab Emirates (Su-35 fighters and SA-12 air defense systems); Columbia (helicopter gunships); and South Korea (S-300 air defense missile systems).

Washington is particularly worried by the prospects for an increase in the military-technical cooperation between the Russian Federation and the countries of Latin America, which traditionally have been considered to be an established zone of U.S. influence. In the view of a number of Congressmen, further retention of existing limitations on the sale of American high-technology weapons to this region could mean that this multi-billion-dollar market would be virtually lost for the United States.

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Apart from political declarations, practical steps have also been taken. U.S. helicopter manufacturers have repeatedly made attempts to edge traditional Russian suppliers out of Peru. For instance, O. Benavidez, emissary of the U.S. firm "Sikorsky" held talks with representatives of the Peruvian Armed Forces on the possibility of concluding a long-term contract for the delivery of "Black Hawk" helicopters. Concurrently R. Fernandez, a high-ranking official of the U.S. anti-drug agency's Peruvian bureau, turned to the Peruvian Interior Ministry, submitting for consideration proposals, drawn up by his agency, for the purchase of "Bell" helicopters to combat drug trafficking. R. Adams, head of the U.S. bureau of the "Fired Wing and Helicopter Service, S.A." [as published], has made a proposal for a contract to be concluded under which Peruvian pilots will be trained by American instructors to operate U.S.-made helicopter hardware. Officers and generals of the Peruvian Armed Forces who participated in the aforementioned talks were promised "a commission," namely, a certain percentage of the sum of the contract to be transferred to their personal accounts in U.S. banks.

Furthermore, incidents have been revealed where direct pressure has been exerted on the governments of a number of countries so that they will give up plans for purchasing Russian arms. In a conversation with Ecuadorian President Duran and Mr. Herrera, chief of staff of the Army, in May, Mr. Romero, U.S. ambassador, expressed Washington's concern over the Ecuadorian military's "lopsided orientation" toward the purchases of weapons and, first of all, helicopters, from Russia. At the same time he noted that such a stance could have an impact, which will be adverse for Quito, on the U.S. line regarding the conflict between Ecuador and Peru. Mr. Romero said that the United States is ready to sell U.S. helicopters to Ecuador on 15-year credit.

CIA field officers in Quito have been making efforts to gather evidence compromising members of the National Defense Council of Ecuador so as to blackmail them into postponing the signing of a contract for the delivery of Russian transport helicopters.

After the signing of the Russian-Colombian agreement on military-technical cooperation in March, the United States has stepped up its efforts to advance its helicopter gunships to the Colombian market. The leadership of the Colombian Armed Forces and Defense Ministry (particularly, General R. Acosta, the key figure in matters of helicopter purchases as well as Mr. Trujillo, chief of the Colombian Defense Ministry's procurement group) are being pressured through the "Coransa" firm, registered in Colombia, to buy S-70A, UH-60A, and H-53 helicopters. At the same time, CIA agents among pilots of the Colombian Air Force have been stirring anti-Russian sentiments and instigating corresponding utterances during office meetings. Furthermore, Langley has been carrying out a purposeful operation to discredit Colombian President Samper and the key figures in his entourage who stand for the development of military-technical cooperation between Moscow and Bogota. According to available information, the so-called "drugs cassette" with recordings of conversations between Samper's campaign managers and Cali drugs barons was manufactured in U.S. technical laboratories, using the most up-to-date methods of digital processing of speech signals.

The latest personnel changes that have occurred in Moscow have not gone unnoticed by Langley either. On 20 June, CIA Director John Deutsch held a conference with the senior personnel of the Operational Directorate, which, by some accounts, discussed the situation that had come about in the Russian capital following the dismissal of Oleg Soskovets, Mikhail Barsukov, and Aleksandr Korzhakov. There are grounds to suggest that amid ensuing confusion that is inevitable in this situation and a heightening of the struggle in the government and the presidential staff between lobbyists of the fuel and energy sector, on the one hand, and those lobbying for the defense sector, on the other, CIA operatives in Moscow, using available agents in ministries, departments, and law-enforcement agencies of the Russian Federation, could take coordinated actions to discredit Russian officials responsible for arms exports. Thus fabricated compromising evidence could be disseminated among State Duma deputies and exploited to exert pressure on President Boris Yeltsin so as to force him to continue a purge among high-ranking officials of the Foreign Ministry, the Foreign Intelligence Service [SVR], the Presidential Security Service [SBP], and the "Rosvooruzheniye" company.

Russia: Issues Russia Might Raise at Lyon G-7 Forum Viewed

MK2706083096 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 26 Jun 96 p 4

[Analysis by Tatyana Yudina: "Moving Toward 'G-8' Step by Step"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] Although the level [of Russia's] representative [at the Lyon G-7 meeting] will be different from what it was supposed to be, the tasks before the Russian delegation remain the same. Of importance here is a certain change in viewing the very concept of the Russian Federation's participation in the annual summits. The symbolic part of Russian participation connected with the recognition

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of Russia's role in the world is becoming more and more a secondary consideration. The country's foreign policy is becoming increasingly pragmatic. Today Russia is no longer after "participation for participation's sake" but rather after continuing to build equitable and mutually beneficial cooperation in concrete areas where it appears to be possible.

From this point of view, of great importance would be to recognize Russia as a country with a market economy, which would help consolidate its foreign economic positions, would open to Russian commodities a road to Western markets and primarily to EU-member countries, and would create opportunities for the implementation of the agreement on partnership between Russia and the EU. The meeting is also expected to discuss Russia's joining the World Trade Organization, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation, as well as becoming involved in the activities of the Paris Club in its new capacity of creditor.

The meeting may be expected to touch on elaborating a comprehensive model of security in Europe, NATO's expansion, and matters relating to the CIS's activities. According to American experts' estimate, the price to pay for admitting new NATO members would be between $80 billion and $120 billion. A rather reasonable question to ask is: Would it not be better to invest this money, to mutual benefit, in the Russian economy, which has an acute demand for investment, and to thereby stabilize the situation in the region rather than create new costly division lines? Considering that the forum is about economy first and foremost, it would be quite appropriate to discuss such political questions in conjunction with the economic context.

At the same time, it is obvious today that it would be wrong to ignore the growing centripetal tendencies in the CIS, which may in the future lead to building in the post-Soviet space a new foundation of European security. The building of such a foundation is deemed possible only if it develops in accordance with democratic procedures on an equitable and voluntary basis and in accordance with the interests of all CIS-member countries under conditions of mutual respect and complete recognition of sovereignty and territorial integrity, while at the same time the newly created system should not be opposed to those already in place. [passage omitted]

Russia: Lyon Summit Seen Unlikely To Heed Russian Interests

MK2706104396 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 27 Jun 96 p 1

[Report by Dmitriy Gornostayev under the "Summit" rubric with the general heading: "Yet Another G-7 Forum To Open in Lyon Today. With Yeltsin Absent, Russia Cannot Expect It To Seriously Heed Its Interests"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] On the eve of the Lyon summit U.S. President Bill Clinton held a meeting with the heads of the three Baltic states and assured them of American support for the admission of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia to NATO. In principle, this is no news — the Americans have always said something of the kind. It is another thing that holds interest. A day earlier Guntis Ulmanis, Algirdas Brazauskas, and Lennart Meri had a conversation with Bob Dole, U.S. presidential hopeful, who afterward demanded from the U.S. president that he back these countries' desire and raise the question of their joining the North Atlantic Alliance at the summit in Lyon. It is quite likely that this will be the case. In the United States, like in Russia, the closer the presidential election, the more the incumbent president heeds the views of opposition forces. The influence of the Republicans or their ideas on the policy of the Clinton Administration is becoming increasingly visible.

Given that, it is possible that in Lyon Bill Clinton will also have to make provision largely for the Republicans' tough anti-Russian line. Meanwhile, friend Boris — the only one who is hypothetically capable of convincing his friend Bill of the need at least to suspend NATO's expansion — will be unable to do so for the reason of his absence from the negotiating table.

Yes, the G-7 leaders have expressed their understanding with regard to Yeltsin's decision to prefer Moscow to Lyon in the end of June. Yes, Chernomyrdin is too weighty a figure in Russia, at least for now, to ignore his stance. But, to all appearances, the current summit — for which Russia, by the way, was well prepared, making sure that it has a new format that underscores its status as a nearly full-blown member — will fail to considerably advance its interests. At least in the political and security areas the West will not make serious decisions, first of all because it does not want to bind itself by far-reaching obligations in the event of Gennadiy Zyuganov's victory, which will inevitably force the West drastically to step up the pace of Euro-Atlantic integration. The second reason is the U.S. presidential election, due in November, because Dole's victory could cause a desire on the part of the

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United States to create a new iron curtain. [passage omitted]

Russia: Chernomyrdin Not Planning To Meet Hashimoto at G-7 Summit

LD2606141596 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1256 GMT 26 Jun 96

[By Andrey Varlamov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, June 26 (Itar-Tass) — Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin is still working on his schedule of bilateral meetings with G-7 leaders during their summit meeting in Lyon this week, but it does not include a meeting with his Japanese counterpart Ryutaro Hashimoto, a source in Russian diplomatic circles told Itar-Tass on Wednesday.

The source did not specify why there will be no meeting between Chernomyrdin and Hashimoto.

At the same time, the source did not rule out the possibility that the reason may be in the very busy schedule of the Russian prime minister's stay in Lyon.

Chernomyrdin will take the place of Russian President Boris Yeltsin who will stay home for election reasons.

During their meeting in Moscow in March 1996, Yeltsin and Hashimoto confirmed their commitment to the 1993 Tokyo declaration which reflects both countries' willingness to develop bilateral relations while continuing talks on the territorial dispute.

Russia: Chernomyrdin Seeking Confirmation of Paris Club Terms

MM2706082296 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 27 Jun 96 p 3

[Report by Maksim Chikin: "Chernomyrdin Watched by Seven Nannies. Russian Premier Trying To Join Paris Club at Lyon Summit"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Paris — Of course, the participation or, rather, nonparticipation of the Russian president has been awkward, but our club partners seem not to have taken offense. Literally six months ago the French president, who is chairing the current G-7 summit, promised that at the next summit of the industrially developed states in Lyon the G-7 would effectively turn into the "G-8," and we have already gotten used to calling it that.

In this connection one of the main questions which the Russian delegation intends to put to its partners looks rather ambiguous: that they move toward recognizing Russia as a country with a market economy, since in all international indicators we are classed as a state with a transitional economy. But if we take into account the fact that the current summit, to avoid any uncertainty, has been dubbed a "summit-level meeting of the industrially developed states," it is totally unclear what a transitional country is doing there. Although, of course, it is clear to everyone that it would not be sensible to try to resolve world problems without Russia even in its current position, and we need only recall that it was not so long ago that a nuclear safety forum was held in Moscow within the G-7 framework, and that fact alone shows that a place has been reserved for us in the super-club.

There is one other issue which the Russian prime minister intends to put to his interlocutors, namely the Russian Federation's admission to the Paris Club as a full participant. Hitherto the name of this organization has been associated with obtaining loans from rich countries and subsequent titanic efforts to defer repayment. But we too are owed money, and this means that we are entitled to call ourselves creditors and take our place in the club. Apart from anything else, Russia has in its time made a lot of applications to join all kinds of international organizations: the OECD, the Asia-Pacific Cooperation Organization, the World Trade Organization, and so forth. At the Lyon summit Viktor Chernomyrdin will have to get confirmation that the terms for our entry to these clubs will still be favorable.

Viktor Chernomyrdin will arrive in Lyon 28 June, and the club sessions will be in full swing by then. One area for debate will be aid to developing countries, and a European-American clash is possible in this area. Last year in Halifax Chirac drew the attention of those present to the fact that the United States had not made its contribution to this noble undertaking but nonetheless wanted to be in control of distribution. That is not the way things work. Moreover, the question of so-called IMF Special Drawing Rights will be resolved at the G-7 summit. These are a kind of internal IMF currency to which its members have access.

One other important detail. This seems to be the first G-7 summit that we have attended where we will not be asking for money.

Russia: Moscow Silent on Kiev's Plans for NATO Partnership

LD2606143896 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1356 GMT 26 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, June 26 (Interfax) — The Russian Foreign Ministry has refrained from comment on the statements by Igor Kharchenko, the head of the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry's Department for Political Analysis and Forecasts, to the effect that Kiev favors a "special partnership" with NATO which

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might be documented in an agreement on "Ukraine's associate membership in this organization."

Kharchenko announced at a briefing in Kiev Tuesday that these plans were disclosed by Ukraine Foreign Minister Hennadiy Udovenko at a NATO conference in Warsaw on June 21. He also said that Ukraine's proposal had been passed over to the NATO leaders and to the leaders of all its members.

A source in the Russian Foreign Ministry told Interfax that "Moscow has taken this information into account, but does not exclude misunderstanding."

"Through diplomatic channels the Russian Foreign Ministry had asked for the official text of Udovenko's speech in Warsaw," he said.

"It would be premature to respond, not having the official text," he said.

He said that NATO's basic documents, including the 1949 Washington agreement, do not envisage incomplete membership in this organization.

"Ukraine is just shaping its attitude to NATO," he said.

"Moscow and Kiev hold regular consultations on European affairs. We hope that in case of any serious turns in the foreign policy, Ukraine will immediately let us know," he said.

Commenting on the Ukrainian parliament's latest resolutions on the foreign military bases in its territory, the diplomat said that Moscow is closely following the situation, and adequately responds to it through diplomatic channels.

Certain political-diplomatic moves have been made already, he said without giving any details.

Meanwhile, other informed sources in Moscow told Interfax Wednesday that the Russian president's aide for international affairs, Dmitriy Ryurikov, is likely to go to Kiev shortly to meet with Ukrainian officials.

The Ukrainian parliament Tuesday adopted Provision 17 of the draft constitution, which rules out the location of foreign military bases in Ukrainian territory.

Sources in the Russian Foreign Ministry also informed Interfax that "they do not find it necessary" to respond to the statements made in Strasbourg by one of the vice-presidents of the Council of Europe's Parliamentary Assembly, leader of the Ukrainian delegation Boris Oleynik.

Oleynik urged the Council of Europe to condemn the moves by CIS leaders who expressed their support for President Boris Yeltsin on the eve of the presidential elections and urged the Russian citizens to vote for Yeltsin.

The Russian Foreign Ministry does not find it necessary to comment on such statements as they do not reflect Kiev's official position, he said.

For details, see the Diplomatic Panorama of June 26.

Russia: Russia, Belarus Hold First Parliamentary Assembly Session

MK2706050996 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 26 Jun 96 p 3

[Unattributed NEGA report: "Belarus"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The first session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Community of Russia and Belarus, which opened yesterday, will discuss matters of deepening cooperation in various spheres of the national economy, culture, and sports. According to sources at the Smolensk Oblast administration, taking part in the session are Russian Federation State Duma Speaker Gennadiy Seleznev, 17 deputies from the lower house of the Russian parliament, and eight members from the Federation Council, including Moscow Mayor Yuriy Luzhkov. The Belarusian delegation, comprised of 25 deputies of the Supreme Soviet, is led by its Chairman Semen Sharetskiy.

Mr. Sharetskiy believes that the parliamentarians of the two countries "will define the structure of an interparliamentary assembly and will then possibly formulate the main tasks for the Parliamentary Assembly to work on."

Russian Duma Deputy Speaker Sergey Baburin, who arrived in Smolensk, said that "the parliaments of Russia and Belarus are called upon to lay down the groundwork for integration."

Yesterday Semen Sharetskiy was elected chairman of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Community of Russia and Belarus. He will hold this position during the assembly's first term. Russian State Duma Speaker Gennadiy Seleznev was elected Sharetskiy's first deputy while Sergey Baburin was elected deputy speaker on the Russian side, and Alyaksandr Kozyr, chairman of the Supreme Soviet Subcommission on CIS Affairs, was elected deputy speaker on the Belarusian side. Yesterday the session formed six standing assembly commissions.

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Russia: Pakistan Said Trying To Purchase T-80 Tanks From Ukraine

MM2606152796 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 25 Jun 96 p 7

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Leonid Kotov: "Pakistan Sets Its Sights on Ukrainian Tanks"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Delhi — The Pakistani press is really hyping rumors that official representatives of Islamabad have stepped up attempts to conclude military contracts with Ukraine. For example, reports have appeared about the intention of Benazir Bhutto's government to conclude a deal with Kiev as soon as possible on acquiring a consignment of 300 modern T-80 tanks. The potential Pakistani order to tank builders in Kharkov is estimated to be worth $450-600 million. This is an enormous amount of money for Islamabad if you consider the very difficult situation that has developed with Pakistan's finances as a result of unbridled military expenditure. However, it looks as if the Ukrainian tanks are keeping Islamabad administrators awake at night, as they are prepared to pay out for a consignment of T-80's even if this step threatens catastrophic consequences for Pakistan's state treasury.

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Political Issues

Russia: Yeltsin Formulates National Security Guidelines

LD2606142496 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1218 GMT 26 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow, June 26 (Interfax) — President Boris Yeltsin of Russia called relations with other CIS member countries "a priority" in his annual address to the Federal Assembly, forwarded to Interfax.

"This is so because of two reasons. Firstly, Russia's vital interests in the security, defense, economic fields as well as in the protection of human rights of Russian citizens, irregardless of where they reside, are concentrated on the territory of the former Soviet Union. Secondly, efficient cooperation with the CIS states is a factor resisting centrifugal trends in Russia," he said.

"The possibility still remains to unite the newly independent states into a completely new modern geopolitical formation on the basis of equality, respect and territorial integrity and free will," Yeltsin said.

"A union with Belarus, Kazakhstan and Ukraine, provided the latter shows good will, may become the basis of Russia's policy toward the CIS," he said. "From the historic and civilization points of view, these countries cannot have reasons to confront each other. Our relations should be built on the good-neighborly and cooperative basis and eventually become those of allies."

Russia's national security goal in foreign policy is to "create a favorable environment for the country's internal development," Yeltsin said. "The key condition of its achievement is the maintenance of peace and peaceful resolution of all interstate disputes and differences, not affecting Russia's interests," he said.

"The specific features of the current external political situation, when a large-scale military danger does not exist, enable Russia to use all forces and resources available to achieve the top priorities, namely to accomplish the construction of the foundation of a constitutional democratic system and spiritual and economic recuperation," Yeltsin said.

"To achieve true nationwide accord, a widely recognized outlook is needed, which would unite even the most radical and irreconcilable rivals and opponents," he said. "Such a basis could be comprised by the ideology of recovering the great Russia, a prosperous, democratic, free and responsible power, combining its historically specific features with the most valuable and up-to-date experience gained by mankind.

Yeltsin conferred all responsibility for general coordination and supervision of the national security policy on the Security Council of Russia.

Yeltsin also instructed his new aide for national security, Security Council Secretary Aleksandr Lebed, to coordinate, prepare, pass and implement day-to-day decisions concerning national security.

Aleksandr Lebed was appointed Security Council Secretary and presidential aide for national security following the first round of the presidential elections in Russia.

Russia: Excerpts of National Security Document Cited

LD2606194296 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1852 GMT 26 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, June 26 (Interfax) — Interfax has obtained a document entitled "A New Approach to National Security Issues," developed by Russian Security Council Secretary and presidential national security aide Aleksandr Lebed.

Here are some excerpts:

"National security issues are of major importance. Among them, it is necessary to specify economic security issues as dominant at the present stage of the country's development," Lebed says in the document.

Privatization. Environment. Role of the government in the economy.

"It is necessary to pass from huge and unjustifiably accelerated privatization to shares-for-loans and investment auctions, differing from those already held by strict rules publicized in advance and approved by the Justice Ministry. During shares-for-loans auctions, the terms of state ownership of blocs of shares must be established individually for each privatized enterprise with regard to its specificity and condition. Environmental protection requirements must be formulated among the requirements set forward for shares-for-loans and investment auctions... It is necessary to establish strict legal and financial responsibility for environmental pollution.

"A law on compensated nationalization is necessary.

"The country's transition to an investment stage of economic development will require an increase in the government's role in the economy, although in the strictly limited capacity of the guarantor of investment stability. It is possible through the creation of financial-industrial groups in various industries, which would have open (unlike the present semi-criminal institutions) coordinating links with the government, which would

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allow both their competitors and the public to control these links.

"It is also necessary to give all-out support to the civilized development of the stock market in Russia. It is necessary, on the one hand, to simplify the registration of securities and on the other, to radically increase the responsibility of their issuers for the authenticity of information. It is necessary to create an appropriate regulatory basis and strict control on the part of government agencies, in particular economic crime departments in law enforcement agencies and the tax police, over the activities of any companies attracting the population's money under various projects. It is also necessary to approve legislative regulations limiting the profitability of deals between companies indirectly controlling one another. This will allow to the outflow of raw materials from Russia for dumping prices to be limited, which mainly concerns the forestry and the metallurgical industry.

"There is an objective need to impose strict control over foreign economic relations and price formation in the state-run sector. It is necessary to increase control over the export of raw materials and products of their primary transformation and change the structure of taxes on mining industries and exporters of oil and gas.

"All exporters must be obliged to include in export contracts the terms of payment and the order of transferring the money on accounts in Russia. Importers must be prohibited from using advance payment, substituting it with bills of credit and other means of payment that can be cashed only after the contracting party ships goods in accordance with the contract. It is also necessary to increase control over the import of services. And it is necessary to toughen punishment for violations in these areas. It is necessary for Russia not to lose currency revenues illegally staying abroad. People who do this in effect actively credit foreign countries at the cost of Russia's public riches, while Russia itself is in a grave crisis."

On the sale of armaments abroad, foreign debt and relations with neighbors

"While developing and supporting the export-oriented part of the Russian military-industrial complex I will put an end to the shameful practice of selling new armaments and technologies to our potential adversaries. The Russian armed forces and law-enforcement agencies should retain priority in the use of the most promising designs of the domestic defense industry.

"It is also necessary to pay special attention to the constant overcrediting of Russia in the international financial institutions. This may lead can lead to a situation when the International Monetary Fund (IMF) will one day deem it unacceptable to increase this debt spiral. And an end to such financing may cause a crisis in Russia's financial system. Then Russian banks will be unable to save their accounts in foreign banks because Russia's creditors may take decisive measures, including freeze Russian accounts abroad. It is particularly important in a situation where the world financial system, based on the U.S. dollar as the international reserve currency, is becoming all the more unstable.

"There is the acute problem of the huge debts of our close neighbors, primarily for energy and raw materials. Such a situation is inadmissible in the situation of economic crisis in Russia. Russia should, can and must develop economic cooperation with its neighbors on mutually profitable terms. Relations with these countries will be built, as I said in my program, with regard to their attitude to the ethnic Russians who have remained on their territory."

A search for strategic partners among non-CIS countries — facing the Asian-Pacific region

"Russia needs to step up efforts to search for potential strategic partners among non-CIS countries. The search should be based on the concept of Russia as a world civilization. Obviously, it is hard to find truly strategic partners in Europe, although work in this direction must be continued.

"Russia must more attentively study different variants of cooperation with Asian-Pacific countries, including China. Such an alliance could help create a unique self-sufficient system with enormous potential for development and cooperation and a large internal market, which would be able to conduct independent and efficient foreign policy toward any other geopolitical systems.

"That is why strengthening and developing trade, production, scientific, military, political and cultural relations with Asian-Pacific countries must be considered a major political and, above all, economic strategic task for Russia."

High technology. Support for research and development of new systems of armaments.

"It is necessary to begin working out ways to transfer Russia to new industrial and financial relations typical for the so-called information society and connected with a dominating increase in productivity owing to the implementation of high technologies and new methods and technical systems of management of production, sale and financial currents...

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Russian agricultural products is often higher than that of products produced abroad. On the other hand, this will allow the stimulation of higher efficiency and productivity by agricultural workers through decreasing the subsidized part of the difference in prices year by year. If a national producer fails to learn to work better and cheaper than foreign producers in, say, three years, he should be the only one to blame."

Regional policy

"There is a complex of interconnected tasks in the area of regional policy.

"The collapse of the Russian transport system that has already begun and, alas, is continuing may exercise a catastrophic influence over Russia's integrity. A number of regions with relatively independent cycles of development and well-developed infrastructures may in this case secede from Russia de facto and possibly also de juro. The excessively rapid pace of the signing of agreements on power-sharing with the regions may also contribute to this.

"A very balanced approach is required here. It is obvious that from the legal point of view all regions should have an equal social-economic status. The federal authorities work on common strategic issues and coordinate inter-regional programs, including programs regarding the development of new technology and stimulation of production. The local authorities settle all tactical problems. This is a real rather than a fictitious federalization of the country. The center is the supreme authority with regard to disputes concerning property that go beyond the limits of a region. Settlement of federative relations is also possible if the treaties between the central authorities and the regions envisage the possibility of creating some 'chains for the receipt of profits' linking regions with mutually complementary kinds of production companies and transport infrastructure... There is a great need to clarify problems relating to international and economic relations while sharing powers between the federation and its constituent members."

Fiscal reform, tight measures regarding tax evasion

"The need to reform the fiscal system is an old need. The entire system of taxes should be aimed at the most precise assessment of social and environmental costs relating to one or another kind of economic activity and a just distribution of taxes between private and state-run companies and organizations in proportion to the share that the performance of one or another organization creates in one or another cost.

"Tight and technically supported measures are needed to combat tax evasion. A computerized register of all tax evaders is absolutely necessary.

"Tax collection can be considered not just as an economic problem but also as a technological problem. The more computerized tax collection and registration is, the more simple it is to track tax dodgers, including both those who premeditatedly conceal their income and evade taxes and those whose failure to pay all due taxes results from an error.

"The amount of taxes needs to be clearly in line with budget expenditures. It is also necessary to understand that the fight for financial and fiscal discipline aimed against all companies rather than against the most influential and thus persistent violators of this discipline is a factor exacerbating the crisis.

"While Russian businessmen are investing money they have illegally removed abroad, Russia should envision the possibility of granting a fiscal amnesty regarding such money and possibly even granting tax breaks (for instance, exemption from value added tax for five years) to those investing in the most capital-intensive companies. Russia should also consider the possibility of exempting those investing in the most capital-intensive companies from profit tax if they receive profit before this period of time expires.

"Under the amnesty program, all proceeds from re-exported capital must go to the investor. Twenty-five percent (or even 50 percent in some cases) of these proceeds must not be subject to any taxes, duties or excise duties and their legal export to any part of the world must be permitted. The remaining 75 percent (or 50 percent) of proceeds must be subject to Russian taxation if it is removed from such programs or projects. If the money is re-invested, this part of proceeds should also be exempt of taxes.

"In reducing taxes, it is necessary to take into account the need to find money to close the 'gaps' in the budget that will appear in this case. This is possible if rent is introduced on the use of natural reserves and if the fiscal burden is removed from producers onto the property tax.

"The rent on reserves will help increase fiscal discipline. Higher fiscal discipline will allow the resolution of the problem concerning the replenishment of revenues to the Russian budget by bringing order to the taxation of major tax-payer companies. This is especially important with regard to the industries where super profits are based directly on the use of natural reserves that, in my opinion, belong to all Russian citizens rather than only to exporters or those having the monopoly right for the primary processing of raw material. The size of taxes

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on profits from such raw-material producers must be strictly linked to world prices for their products.

"It is possible to propose the idea of creating a federal center to work out and implement a complex of measures to contribute to the return and the best use of financial funds concealed from the fiscal authorities (including money abroad). Such a federal center can be created under the Security Council. This center should be given necessary powers to call specialists for the development of measures in the areas of taxation and investments and to call in the special services, including the Chief Intelligence Department and the Foreign Intelligence Service agents, in the search for illegally removed capital. This center should also have the opportunity and right to maintain direct contacts with Interpol and financial control authorities in all foreign countries.

"It is necessary to create a flexible system for refinancing banks and extending stabilization loans to them.

"Control over the expenditure of budget funds should be tightened by the final creation and planned development of the system of the federal treasury."

Lebed says that all of the above mentioned represent urgent tasks.

Long-term goals

"In the future, Russia's banking system should raise its efficiency and completely shift toward electronic operations.

"Russia should not copy the banking systems already in existence in developed countries. It is necessary to examine the trends for their reform thoroughly and plan the development of the domestic banking system alongside these trends. This will enable Russia to enter the 21st century with a modern financial [passage indistinct] smuggling of strategic raw materials, it is necessary to toughen visa and passport controls for all foreign citizens without exception and Russian citizens migrating from conflict areas. In addition, it is necessary to classify foreign states by their friendliness toward Russia, further toughen visa and passport controls for their citizens and introduce a special economic and legal status for them when they stay in Russia."

Defense expenditures and intelligence goals

"I believe that the existing defense expenditures are quite enough to ensure Russia's military security, provided the budget allocations come as planned and the optimal system for financing the army and the defense industry is developed on the basis of a clear-cut prioritization of financing guidelines and a stage-by-stage resolution of specific issues.

"I believe it is necessary to adjust the structure and goals of the intelligence services, directing their efforts to back Russia's economic interests in the first place. I will demand that more effort be applied immediately in the following specific fields:

—to ensure an uninterrupted monitoring of the situation on the world markets of armaments, aviation and space equipment and to search for information on existing or developed technologies in the design of new armaments;

—to search for new designs in commercial technologies, both by state-run and private enterprises;

—to search for critical information on the plans and activities of the leading international financial institutions, major transnational corporations, banks and investment companies of all countries of the world;

—to organize information campaigns in foreign countries to attract more investment in the Russian economy.

"I believe it is necessary to allow the intelligence services to cooperate with major domestic production and financial enterprises of any form of property.

"The experience of France, Germany, Japan and China has proved the efficiency of such cooperation for raising the competitiveness and technological potential of the domestic economy.

"These are the issues that I want to try to handle within the Security Council through coordinating the resources that already exist in the key financial and economic structures of the state."

Lebed concluded.

Russia: Lebed Denies Authorship of New Security Concept

LD2706092196 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0900 GMT 27 Jun 96

[By Andrey Surzhanskiy]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, June 27 (Itar-Tass) — Aleksandr Lebed, Secretary of the Russian Security Council and Assistant to the President for National Security, said today that a document on national security quoted by a number of the media should not be linked to his name.

According to Lebed's statement which ITAR-TASS has, the draft document prepared by the apparatus defines not so much the concept of security as approaches to the problem. Lebed explains that the national security concept worked out and is being perfected by the

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Security Council apparatus. He said this work was started with the participation of his predecessors, so he does not think it would be proper to ascribe to himself the results of their work.

"Vast work has been done and this should be remembered. But the approaches and the emphasis must be linked to present-day realities and top priorities," Lebed said.

Russia: Yeltsin Names Rybkin Head of Political Consultative Council

LD2706065496 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0615 GMT 27 Jun 96

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Shtorkh]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 27 Jun (Itar-Tass) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin today appointed former State Duma Speaker Ivan Rybkin chairman of the Political Consultative Council. An ITAR-TASS correspondent learned this from an official spokesman for the presidential press service.

The new public body was set up by the head of state to replace the Public Chamber under the president of the Russian Federation. The step follows proposals from a number of political parties and movements to improve liaison between federal bodies of state power and broad sections of the public.

The president has invited political parties and movements in the State Duma, as well as those political parties and movements that failed to gain deputies' seats in the [State Duma] election, to join the Political Consultative Council as a matter of priority.

Russia: Lebed Not Worried About Post-Election Future

LD2706110096 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1048 GMT 27 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW June 27 (Itar-Tass) — Russian security supremo Aleksandr Lebed does not fear that he may be used for election purposes by the Kremlin and dismissed after the second round of elections when his 14.5 percent of votes enjoyed in the first round would be of no value.

"All the games of apparatchiks, if they are planned, will fail", the general told reporters on Thursday using the Soviet-era nickname for Kremlin officials.

Lebed's appointment as secretary of the powerful Security Council was viewed by most observers as an attempt of President Boris Yeltsin to win over his votes in the second round.

Observers feared Lebed may be of no use for authorities after elections are over. However, the new security supremo succeeded to have most of his opponents sacked in only a few days of his new position.

Russia: Lebed Calls Religious Sects 'Direct Threat' to Security

LD2706094396 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0927 GMT 27 Jun 96

[By Mikhail Shevtsov and Andrey Surzhanskiy]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, June 27 (Itar-Tass) — Aleksandr Lebed, Secretary of the Russian Security Council, who today addressed here the second conference of the Union of Patriotic and National Organisations of Russia, told its participants that the activities of several religious sects in the country constituted "a direct threat to national security".

"We have three officially recognised religions — the Orthodox Church, Islam, and Buddhism," he said, lashing out at the activities of different sects, particularly the "Aum Shinrikyo". Such sects as the Aum "corrupt the people and ruin the State". The Secretary of the Security Council believes that they "must be outlawed".

Lebed is disturbed by a phenomenon, which he described as "the West's cultural expansion" and by the "dominance" of Western films on Russian television. He said that opposition to this "cultural expansion" should constitute one of the cornerstones of the country's national security.

Russia: Korzhakov, Barsukov Tipped for New Jobs

MM2706091996 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 27 Jun 96 p 1

[Report by Vladimir Zaynetdinov: "You Have To Oblige Your Own Man"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Presidential Security Service [SBP] boss Aleksandr Korzhakov, who was fired by Yeltsin six days ago, is still in his Kremlin office.

Kremlin sources report that Korzhakov, as is usual in such situations, is handing over affairs to acting SBP chief Yuriy Krapivin. Aleksandr Korzhakov himself is calmly and unemotionally showing the ropes to the possible chief of the SBP, on which the Federal Protection Service is still "dependent" [visit]. Krapivin is still in his own office, which is opposite the SBP chief's apartments.

We have learned that in the very near future Korzhakov may once again have an important state job — it has not been ruled out that he will be one of the deputy

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chiefs of the Presidential Staff. And his friend Mikhail Barsukov is being promised a job in far-off Brussels. He will probably be representing Russia at the NATO military organization there.

Military Issues

Russia: Yeltsin, Kolesnikov Address Military Alumni Reception

MM2706113996 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Jun 96 p 1

[Report by Vladimir Berezko: "Russian President Boris Yeltsin Urged Graduates of Military Academies and Institutions at a Kremlin Reception To Bear With Honor the Title of Defender of Russian Territory"]

[FBIS Translated Text] People who have once again confirmed by their intensive, excellent learning the honor and dignity of the Russian military uniform were invited to the Kremlin. The reception was addressed by Russian President Boris Yeltsin, supreme commander in chief, and Army General Mikhail Kolesnikov, acting Russian Federation defense minister.

In his speech Army Gen. Mikhail Kolesnikov, greeting the graduates, stressed that today is a solemn day in the life of the Russian military school system. A new detachment of highly trained military specialists is joining the troops. He said that today's Russia is firmly setting about establishing democracy, strengthening statehood, and achieving unity and accord in society.

The Army and Navy, like the whole country, are experiencing one of the most complex phases in their organizational development. The Russian Armed Forces, created four years ago, Army Gen. Kolesnikov said, by and large meet present requirements for ensuring the country's security and are capable of safeguarding the motherland's national interests and being the guarantor of the country's stability and territorial integrity.

All the difficulties notwithstanding, Army Gen. Mikhail Kolesnikov pointed out, questions pertaining to combat alert duty, combat and operational training, instruction of personnel, and strengthening of troop discipline are being tackled in a consistent and persistent manner by the troops. The Army and Navy demonstrate their combat capability during combat training and combat alert duty.

A number of Russian Army units and subunits are performing peacekeeping tasks. Servicemen are displaying examples of courage when restoring constitutional order in Chechnya.

The Russian Federation president's message to the Federal Assembly "On National Security," Army Gen. Mikhail Kolesnikov pointed out, defined comprehensive military reform as a priority task for military policy. The main content of that reform is the creation of professionally manned mobile Russian Armed Forces equipped with modern highly effective weapons.

Addressing the graduates, Army Gen. Mikhail Kolesnikov continued, it is not just a great honor but a great responsibility to take part in such a constructive process: "Tomorrow you will be conscious of what a burden rests on your shoulders. Do not forget," Army Gen. Mikhail Kolesnikov stressed, "that the state of the Armed Forces is primarily determined by the state of the officers. It is officers, true professionals, and patriots, loyal to their Fatherland, who worthily bear their lofty title of defender of Russia."

Addressing the gathering, Russian President Boris Yeltsin noted that the 1996 academy graduates will determine our Army's future. They will uphold its combat capability and might in the early 21st century.

The danger of global confrontation in the world has lessened, the Russian president said, but the military threat has not disappeared at regional level. What is more, there are many seats of local war and armed conflict close to Russia's borders.

But particular concern is caused by the plans for NATO expansion and a new division of Europe, the head of state emphasized. All this obliges Russia to have a strong Army. An Army which would be one of the bases of Russian statehood and a reliable guarantor of our motherland's security, integrity, and stability.

At present, the Russian president noted, the Armed Forces are pretty combat capable and manageable, and cope by and large with their assigned tasks. Work is under way to recreate a unified military infrastructure within the Russian Federation for the Armed Forces and other troops. Concrete steps are being taken to resolve social problems, the head of state noted. Our soldiers and officers, the Russian president said, are successfully performing peacekeeping functions in accordance with Russia's international commitments. Russian troops' morale has been seriously tested in Chechnya. Their best qualities — fortitude, courage, mutual assistance, and readiness for self-sacrifice — have manifested themselves here, Boris Yeltsin stressed.

At the same time life has shown, the president said, that a great deal still needs to be done to really reform the Army. The aim of reform is to create a professional, mobile, and well-equipped Army and Navy. This work will require tremendous effort not just from the military department but also from all society and all state structures, the head of state stressed. He is

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sure that today's military academy graduates will make a considerable contribution to this work.

"Russia's Army is on the verge of profound transformations. The good scientific base, well-researched long-term models for Armed Forces development, and high-quality training for the officer corps are a guarantee that the changes will be successful. I am sure that our higher military school is equal to these difficult tasks," the supreme commander in chief said. "New-look Russian Armed Forces," Boris Yeltsin continued, "are being created on the powerful foundation of their traditions, the link between the generations, and the supreme professionalism and moral qualities of the officer corps."

You will be dealing not just with the latest technology but also with the supreme asset — man, the Russian president stressed. You will be capable of any tasks if you are able to bolster the authority of your office with the authority of your personality. Remember that all outstanding military commanders were primarily astute educators and psychologists and were able to find the way to soldiers' minds and hearts. This approach, the Russian president said, is in the traditions of the Russian military and is the main secret of its brilliant victories.

The Russian president wished the officers good luck and happiness in their difficult lives as officers, hoped that they will bear with dignity and honor through life the lofty title of defender of Russia, and congratulated them on completing their training.

Russia: Yeltsin Not To Appoint Defense Minister Before 3 Jul

LD2706100096 Moscow Russian Public Television First Channel Network in Russian 0800 GMT 27 Jun 96

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] Boris Yeltsin believes it is not advisable to appoint a new defense minister before the final round of voting is completed, says an address by the president to armed forces personnel sent to the troops, INTERFAX was told today by a high-ranking representatives of Russia's General Staff.

In the address, the head of state notes that the selection of a candidate for the post of defense minister will take account of his ability to implement army reforms successfully and to provide social welfare for servicemen and their families.

Russia: Defense Ministry in Shock After Dismissal of Generals

MK2706072696 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 26 Jun 96 p 1

[Report by Yuriy Golotyuk: "Pavel Grachev's Team Has Been Dismissed. Seven Top Generals Have Been Removed From Their Posts"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] Informed military sources have told your SEGODNYA correspondent that the reaction of the "Arbat Military District" [the Defense Ministry] to Yeltsin's edict was very morbid. Despite Aleksandr Lebed's explicit statements regarding the GKChP-3 [State Committee for Emergency Situations No. 3], the Defense Ministry did not expect that the reaction of the Kremlin would be so harsh and swift. According to the people who are close to the army leadership, none of them can recall a case of such a comprehensive, sweeping dismissal campaign. Even after August 1991, when the situation was much more tense, changes among the generals were made in a quite gradual manner; as a result, the "revolution" in the military agency was much more "velvet" [barkhatnaya]. The simultaneous dismissal of seven top generals, including two heads of the most potent main directorates of the General Staff — the GOU [Main Operations Directorate] and the GOMU [Organization and Mobilization Main Directorate] — caused a shock. The military express fear that "the feeling of revenge is beginning to prevail over reason" with the new secretary of the Russian Federation Security Council, Aleksandr Lebed (whose figure is conspicuous behind all of these dismissals). While the dismissal of Pavel Grachev was perceived by many Defense Ministry staffers as something which had long been anticipated, after yesterday's edict of Mr. Yeltsin the military are awaiting subsequent developments with great anxiety. In addition, it became known yesterday that Mr. Lebed had been included in the commission on higher military posts and higher military and higher special ranks at the Russian Federation president's Council on Personnel Policy; moreover, he became the chairman of this commission (higher military ranks are those from Major General and above). So, the rumor that has reached your SEGODNYA correspondent suggesting that many generals are actively looking for another job outside the military agency seems to correspond to reality.

In addition, according to lawyers, the dismissal of generals from their posts does not exempt them from being liable to eventual criminal prosecution. Let us recall that the Russian Federation General Prosecutor's Office is now verifying the validity of the facts that were mentioned in Mr. Lebed's statement regarding the notori-

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ous GKChP-3. As your SEGODNYA correspondent has learned, this verification has not finished yet (although initially sources at the prosecutor's office claimed that this would take "some three to four days"). Correspondingly, no decision has been made on whether or not to take criminal action.

Russia: Dismissed General Staff Top Brass Were Grachev Associates

MK2606131396 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 26 Jun 96 p 1

[Report by Igor Korotchenko under the general headline: "Large-Scale Purge of Russian Federation Defense Ministry Apparatus Begins"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Russian Federation president's edict that relieved a group of high-ranking generals from their positions has produced a state of shock in the vast majority of the top-ranking officers working on Arbatskaya Ploshchad [Defense Ministry]. General Staff personnel learned about the president's decision to launch personnel changes from television newscasts yesterday afternoon. A source in the General Staff Main Directorate for Operations [GOU] advised NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA that having heard of Boris Yeltsin's edict General Barynkin, the GOU chief, switched on the centralized telephone link-up system installed in his office to tell his subordinates that he did not feel he was guilty of anything, but was ready to resign. Viktor Barynkin underlined that his main motive had always been to serve the state's interests. According to GOU officers, Barynkin had already been questioned by investigators of the military prosecutor's office, but no corpus delicti was found the day Grachev was dismissed. In the opinion of NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA's source in the GOU, it would be extremely rash to go ahead with a rotation of chiefs of directorates and departments [otdely] of the Main Directorate for Operations because most of them are deep into the concerns at hand and it would be hard to replace them without causing some damage.

The true motives of the president's edict are unknown in the General Staff because the arrival of the corresponding text through the military messenger service was only possible by this morning.

It is expected in the General Staff that the first wave of personnel changes may be followed by another, which may sweep the chiefs of a number of other General Staff directorates. Lieutenant General Aleksandr Bystrov, chief of the Electronic Warfare Directorate and Captain 1st Rank Sergey Shiryayev, head of a special subdivision, are being named in this connection.

To the dismissed men themselves, the Russian Federation president's edict came as a total surprise. NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA was advised of this by Colonel General Dmitriy Kharchenko, former chief of the Main International Military Cooperation Directorate. He admitted that he "did not expect such a development." Dmitriy Kharchenko noted that the list of those relieved of their positions are generals who, in the past, either studied or served together with Ex-Defense Minister Pavel Grachev.

Russia: Lebed Expected To Promote Army Reforms

MM2706091296

[FBIS Report] ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian on 27 June 1996 carries on page 1 under the general heading "Army's Fate Determined Not by Kremlin Armchair Generals Alone. Yesterday Our Correspondents Tried To Find Out How the Military Reacted to Cadre Changes Among Top Brass" a roundup of opinion from three military figures: Senior Lieutenant Nikolay Safonov from Bryansk, Major General Yevgeniy Savilov, commander of the Tula Airborne Division, and Major Yuriy Popov of the Kachin Higher Military Pilot School in Volgograd. This is followed by a 500-word report by Reserve Colonel Vladimir Klimov under the heading: "From a 'U.S. Spy's' Viewpoint."

Senior Lt. Safonov is pleased that General Lebed has been appointed to an eminent position and voices a positive opinion of the reshuffle within the military top brass, since he says: "Many generals of this age are not overly worried about the situation in the Army. They earn a good top brass wage and do not want to see any drastic change. In a word, they are living off the fat of the land." He is hopeful that "the actions taken by the president and Lebed will improve troop units' morale and material position."

The opinion voiced by Maj. Gen. Yevgeniy Savilov, commander of the Tula Airborne Division, reads as follows:

"Army reform is long overdue and vitally necessary. I think that reform will not only speed up but will be implemented in a more competent and professional manner since Gen. Lebed, who was once, incidentally, commander of the Tula Airborne Division, has been appointed secretary of the Russian Federation Security Council and presidential aide for national security. On the essential condition that this highly costly process is provided with adequate funding.

"Many officers, particularly members of the top brass, viewed the dismissals within the top echelons of Russia's Armed Forces with a certain amount of trepidation and incomprehension. It is one thing if everything is done in a sound and coherent manner. But if top leaders carry on leaving the Army in droves, it will be hard

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to speak of continuity in its ranks, stability, and the successful implementation of military reform."

Maj. Yuriy Popov of the Kachin Higher Military Pilot School (Volgograd) says the following:

"Highly conflicting rumors are flying around among officers about Lebed. Some people accuse him of virtually violating his oath during the August 1991 putsch. Others, on the contrary, consider him an honest, bold general capable of thinking in a state-minded manner and helping Yeltsin restore order in the country. By and large the Army takes the same view of him as the whole people. And, as you know, the people are a diverse bunch.

"But order is not restored selectively, with one kind of order for the grassroots and another for the high-ups. We therefore expect Lebed to be absolutely impartial and observe the laws. Top officers cannot be picked or discharged on the principle of who studied with whom. Or on the home-town principle. That was the situation quite recently.

"The Army must be reformed by strengthening discipline. Lebed seems capable of doing that. But this kind of reform requires tremendous economic and political preparation. And efforts on the part of the government and all society."

The report by Reserve Colonel Vladimir Klimov reads as follows:

"An officer from the Military University (the former Military-Political Academy) telephoned the editorial office with what was at the very least surprising news:

"'The defense minister has given orders banning interviews unauthorized by the top leadership. People will be discharged within 10 days for giving unauthorized interviews. But I think that this is most likely a flight of fantasy on Zdorikov's part. He is quite capable of getting things wrong too.'

"I later had this confirmed by the minister's apparatus.

"There has been a great deal of talk about Lieutenant General Sergey Zdorikov, chief of the Defense Ministry's Main Directorate for Educational Work. One idea ran through all the talk: the far from high intellectual level of the chief Army educator. But the following is the most eloquent indication of his ability to 'work with people.' An emergency occurred within the directorate: Zdorikov's subordinate, Major General Viktor Marov, committed suicide. The precise reasons for the suicide are unclear. One thing is known: Marov was on a tour of duty, providing support for the election. Zdorikov was not happy with the election results and gave his subordinate a dressing-down in his office. And Marov did not have nerves of steel....

"That is the nature of one of the top officers whom the Russian Federation president has fired. During my work as a journalist I have met with and spoken to some of those who have been discharged. Let me be blunt and say that by no means all of them were delighted with these contacts.

"Once I asked Colonel General Vyacheslav Zherebtsov, chief of the General Staff's Main Organizational and Mobilization Directorate, about the deployment of the mobile forces. I got a discouraging response:

"'Only a U.S. spy could ask that kind of question.'

"Although Zherebtsov asked me to meet and talk to him later, I no longer had any desire to do so.

"So, I am sure that the Army will not lose but gain from being rid of such generals.

"But everything is not clear-cut. It may be my subjective view, but the man whom Aleksandr Lebed put first on the list of participants in the "State Committee for the State of Emergency Mark Three" — Colonel General Viktor Barynkin, chief of the General Staff's Main Operations Directorate — in my view is an experienced and competent general. Once again I had several contacts with him over the last week as a journalist. Barynkin was, incidentally, very surprised when he was named as one of those who 'said goodbye' to Grachev in the lounge. He is certainly nice to Pavel Sergeyevich, but that day he was very busy. He was conducting a command-staff game on maps in his office. So he could not have been involved in a 'coup.'

"But let me stress once again that the view of the generals voiced by me and the other mass media is subjective. Personalities are of course important, but not so important as to be of crucial significance. It is important for generals to restore the Russian Army's former glory and render it truly combat-ready."

Federal Assembly

Russia: Federation Council Rejects Land Code

LD2606110096 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1024 GMT 26 Jun 96

[By Lyudmila Yermakova]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, June 26 (ITAR-TASS) — The Federation Council (upper house) turned down on Wednesday the Land Code of the Russian Federation.

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The Code had been returned by President Boris Yeltsin after the State Duma (lower house) approved it on the whole on May 22.

Contradiction arose over the issue of land ownership.

Yeltsin had said he did not agree with the fact that the document did not provide for the free purchase and sale of land used for agricultural cultivation.

These lands may be redistributed only "thorough leasing or inheritance for life," according to the Code. A land plot may be leased for a period of no longer than 50 year, according to it. However, this clause contradicts the presidential decree "On Exercising the Constitutional Rights of Citizens Concerning Land."

Although the Code provides for multiple forms of land ownership, the right of management is conferred upon big producers, formerly state-owned farms (kolkhozes and sovkhozes).

Yeltsin said earlier that in case the Federation Council should approve the Code, he would veto it. Really, only several members of the upper house voted for the Code.

Presenting the Code before the voting, head of the Federation Council Agrarian Policies Committee Yevgeniy Savchenko said some of its clauses contradicted the Russian Constitution.

The Code "does sufficiently protect the rights of land proprietors, owners and users," Savchenko said.

It runs contrary to the current legislation. That is why it should be finalised, he said summing up the opinion of committee members on the issue.

Participants in a round table meeting on land problems, which was held in the Federation Council building on Tuesday, agreed that the Code needs to be brought into conformity with the demands of economic reform.

Russia: Stroyev Explains Refusal To Approve Duma Land Code

LD2606131596 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1212 GMT 26 Jun 96

[By Lyudmila Yermakova]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, June 26 (ITAR-TASS) — Federation Council speaker Yegor Stroyev said on Wednesday that the right use of land is a basis for all reforms.

"The right use of land is a basis for all reforms, including those affecting the state system," Stroyev told reporters in a comment on Wednesday's refusal of the upper house to approve the Land Code which was passed by the State Duma (lower house) on May 22.

Upper house members refused the Code as it does not recognise private ownership of land, as well as the right of farmers to get their land back, manage, mortgage, sell and inherit it, he said.

To solve the problem, a package of acts in needed be adopted to "regulate land relations and set up certain counterweights which would permit to sell or let land with advantage, but which would prevent its withdrawal from cultivation. Society should benefit from it, like in Germany, France and other developed countries," he said.

Local authorities should be engaged in land reform as well, he said.

The land issue is "the beginning of all reformist approaches in economy. It affects human philosophy and psychology, as well as the state system," according to him.

That is why it took the Federation Council so long to look into the Land Code, he said.

Scientists and politicians, who participated and in a round table meeting on land problems on Tuesday, agreed that the Code needs to be finalised, he said.

Earlier, President Boris Yeltsin had said he did not agree with the fact that the document did not provide for the free purchase and sale of land used for agricultural cultivation.

These lands may be redistributed only "thorough leasing or inheritance for life," according to the Code. A land plot may be leased for a period of no longer than 50 year, according to it. However, this clause contradicts the presidential decree "On Exercising the Constitutional Rights of Citizens Concerning Land."

Although the Code provides for multiple forms of land ownership, the right of management is conferred upon big producers, formerly state-owned farms (kolkhozes and sovkhozes).

Yeltsin said earlier that in case the Federation Council should approve the Code, he would veto it. Really, only several members of the upper house voted for the Code.

Russia: Noncommunist Duma Factions To Join Forces, Form Majority

MK2706071996 Moscow MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS in Russian 26 Jun 96 p 2

[Report by Ivan Maksimov: "A 'Coup' Being Plotted at the State Duma"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Currently it is the Communists and their allies who call the shots in the lower chamber

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of the Russian parliament. It seems that this situation may soon change. Roman Popkovich, deputy chief of the "Russia Is Our Home" [NDR] faction, said that the Duma's non-Communist forces plan to set up a joint coalition to be named "Parliamentary Accord."

Furthermore, this alliance will have an organizing center, called the Coordinating Council. It is difficult to say whether the Liberal Democratic Party of Russia [LDPR] faction will join this coalition, but Roman Semenovich [Popkovich] noted with utmost confidence that "it is possible to do business with Zhirinovskiy" and that his support in key votes is virtually assured. As a result, a majority in the Duma will smoothly and without bloodshed pass from Mr. Zyuganov into the hands of his opponents as early as July. Mr. Popkovich would not say directly that the upcoming goings-on in the building on Okhotnyy Ryad will result in a replacement of the State Duma speaker, but he remarked pointedly that the activity of Gennadiy Seleznev, Communist Party member and current State Duma speaker, has elicited discontent among parliamentarians. Non-Communist deputies have already drawn up the text of a joint statement in that regard, which will be made public right after the incumbent president's victory in the presidential election, about which the Duma's "Our Home" faction members have no doubts whatsoever.

Mr. Popkovich dismissed the Zyuganovites' current call for the formation of a "people's trust government" as hopeless wavering back and forth on the eve of an inevitable failure and as a doomed attempt to sow discord among Boris Yeltsin's supporters.

When asked about the possibility of an early dissolution of the current pro-Communist Duma, Mr. Popkovich acknowledged that "everything is possible in this world," but made it clear that once it has broken free from the Zyuganovites' control, there will be simply no need for early parliamentary elections.

Russia: Legislative, Regulatory Documents 16-22 Jun

96P50098A

[FBIS Report] The following is a listing of Russian legislation recently published in the press of the Russian Federation compiled by FBIS. Numbers within parentheses indicate approximate wordage. Entries followed by the notation "Text" have been translated into English and are available in FBIS publications.

SECTION I: ECONOMIC LEGISLATION (EXPORT-IMPORT, BANKING, PRIVATIZATION, AUCTIONS, REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT)

Government 8 May Decree No. 566 Accepting State Customs Committee's Proposals For Salaries Of Russian Customs Officers Stationed Abroad. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 22 Jun 96 p 7) (400)

Presidential Edict No. 825 Of 7 June On Measures To Develop Civil Aviation. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 19 Jun 96 p 3) (300)

Government Decree No. 660 Of 8 June On Measures To Reduce Social Tension On Labor Market In Ivanovo Oblast. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 20 Jun 96 p 4) (800)

Presidential Edict No. 859 Of 10 June Handing Over To Novosibirsk Oblast Federally-Owned Shares In Tolmachevo Airport Company. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 19 Jun 96 p 3) (250)

Presidential Edict No. 883 Of 13 June On "Older Generation" Federal Targeted Program For 1997-1999. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 20 Jun 96 p 4) (150)

Federal Law No. 65 Of 13 June On Changes To Federal Law On Joint-Stock Companies (Of 17 May 1996). (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Jun 96 p 26) (150)

Presidential Edict No. 911 Of 15 June On State Support For Kuzbass Model For Reform Of The Region's Economy In Period 1997-2000. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 20 Jun 96 4) (750)

Presidential Edict No. 913 Of 15 June On Measures To Ensure Comprehensive Socioeconomic Development Of Krasnodar Kray In 1996-2000. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 20 Jun 96 p 4) (150)

Presidential Edict No. 934 Of 18 June On Preparation Of Social Reform Program. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Jun 96 p 26) (150) (Text)

RF Federal Law No. 76 Of 18 June On Addenda To Federal Law On State Benefits For Citizens With Children. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Jun 96 p 26) (400)

SECTION II: POLITICAL (INTERNATIONAL AND CIS AFFAIRS, ELECTIONS, CRIME, POLLUTION)

Government 3 April Decree No. 369 Submitting Agreement With FRY On Encouragement And Reciprocal

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Protection Of Capital Investments For Duma Consideration And Ratification, Appointing Deputy Minister Of The Economy Kossov As Government Spokesman. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 22 Jun 96 p 7) (200)

Government 23 April Decree No. 510 Abolishing Interdepartmental Commission For Questions Of Relations With Ukraine. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 22 Jun 96 p 7) (200)

Government 17 May Decree No. 592 Accepting Finance Ministry Proposal On Signing Of Agreement With EBRD Guaranteeing Contract With 'EuTelsat' For Development, Manufacture, And Launch Of New Generation 'SeaSat' Satellites. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 22 Jun 96 p 7) (400) (Text)

Federation Council 5 June Decree No. 211 On Ratification Of Treaty With Kazakhstan On Legal Status Of Russians Living In Kazakhstan And Kazakhstani Citizens Living In Russia. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 22 Jun 96 p 9) (300)

Federation Council 5 June Decree No. 229 On Situation In Criminal Penal System (Relates To Proposals To Be Put To Government For Urgent Extra Finance For Prison And Camp System). (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 19 Jun 96 p 3) (350)

Government 6 June Directive No. 875 Allocating R2,117 Million To Finance Activities Of Russian Side Of Mixed Russian-Ukrainian Cooperation Commission. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 22 Jun 96 p 10) (200)

Government 7 June Decree No. 655 Approving Appended (But Not Published) Draft Agreement With Ukraine On Cooperation In The Sphere Of Technical Protection Of Information. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 22 Jun 96 p 10) (200)

Government 8 June Decree No. 671 Approving List Of Centers Of Population Affected By Chernobyl, Other Radiation Accidents On Whose Territories Enterprises Have Been Granted Profit Tax Abatements. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 19 Jun 96 p 3) (200)

Government 8 June Directive No. 902 Accepting Social Protection Ministry's Proposal For Talks With Ukraine On Guaranteeing Pension Rights For Citizens Who Have Worked In The Far North Or Equivalent Localities. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 22 Jun 96 p 9) (200)

Government 11 June Decree No. 694 Approving Appended Statute On Permanent Russian Missions To CIS Organs. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 22 Jun 96 p 10) (400/1400)

Government 11 June Directive No. 930 Criticizing Ministers, Agency Chiefs, Local Leaders For Failing To Carry Out Yeltsin Orders, Assignments. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 18 Jun 96 p 1) (600) (Text)

Presidential Edict No. 864 Of 13 June On Some Measures For State Support Of Human Rights Movement In Russian Federation. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 19 Jun 96 p 3) (450) (Text)

Presidential Edict No. 865 Of 13 June Granting Draft Deferment For Citizens Entering State Taxation Service. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 19 Jun 96 p 3) (350)

Presidential Edict No. 866 Of 13 June On Establishment Of Diplomatic Relations With Haiti At Ambassador Level, Instruction To Foreign Ministry To Coordinate Proposed Text Of Joint Statement With Haiti (Not Published). (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 20 Jun 96 p 4) (100)

Presidential Edict No. 903 Of 13 June On State Support For Integration Of Higher Education, Basic Science. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 19 Jun 96 p 3) (450)

Federal Law No. 64 Signed By Yeltsin 13 June On Entry Into Force Of Russian Criminal Code. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 18 Jun 96 p 4) (750)

Federal Law No. 67 Of 13 June On Changes To Article 11 Of RSFSR Law On RSFSR State Taxation Service. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 19 Jun 96 p 3) (350)

Federal Laws Nos. 66-71 [sic] Ratifying Russian Treaties And Agreements With PRC On Extradition (100); Kazakhstan On Legal Status Of Each Other's Citizens Living On Each Other's Territory (90); Greece On Reciprocal Protection Of Capital Investment (40); Cuba On Reciprocal Protection Of Capital Investment (40); Romania On Reciprocal Protection Of Capital Investment (40). (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 19 Jun 96 p 3)

Federal Law No. 73 Of 15 June On Changes And Addenda To RF Legislative Acts In Connection With Adoption Of Federal Laws On Holding In Custody Persons Suspected Of Commission Of Crimes. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 20 Jun 96 p 4) (2000)

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Federal Law No. 75 Of 17 June On Ratification Of Convention On Interparliamentary Assembly Of CIS Member States. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 20 Jun 96 p 4) (250)

Presidential Edict No. 931 Of 18 June Condemning Repression Following Peasant Uprisings Of 1918-1922. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Jun 96 p 26) (200)

Third Installment Of RF Criminal Code. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 20 Jun 96 pp 5-6) (12000)

SECTION III: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Presidential Edict No. 884 Of 13 June On Doctrine Of Development Of Science. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 20 Jun 96 p 4) (700)

Regional Affairs

Russia: Federal Negotiators Hold Meetings in Chechen Capital

LD2606142596 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1406 GMT 26 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] GROZNYY, June 26 (INTERFAX) — Federal negotiators at the Russian-Chechen peace talks held a number of working meetings in the Chechen capital of Groznyy Wednesday.

Nationalities Minister Vyacheslav Mikhaylov and Duma Nationalities Committee Chairman Vladimir Zorin met with the North Caucasus military district commander, Col. Gen. Anatoliy Kvashnin, and the commander of federal troops in Chechnya, Lt. Gen. Vyacheslav Tikhomirov.

However, they declined to provide any further details.

The executive secretary of the State Commission for Chechnya Settlement, Sergey Stepashin, Moscow-backed Chechen leader Doku Zavgayev and Chechen Prime Minister Nikolay Koshman went to the Vedeno district to meet with local leaders and population.

"The people fully approve the measures that the republic's leadership is taking to stabilize the situation, as well as holding the presidential and local elections," Zavgayev told Interfax after the trip.

The federal delegation also met with representatives of the Russian presidential envoy to Chechnya.

They are also expected to meet with the head of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe assistance group in Chechnya, Tim Guldimann, at about 6 p.m., Interfax learned from its sources.

Russia: Negotiators Meet With Federal Commanders in Chechnya

LD2706115796 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1101 GMT 27 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] GROZNYY, June 27 (INTERFAX) — Members of the federal delegation at the negotiations with Chechen separatists headed by Vyacheslav Mikhailov Thursday continued their meetings with the commanders of Russian federal forces in Chechnya.

Lt. Gen. Vyacheslav Mikhailov and commander of the North Caucasian military district Col. Gen. Anatoliy Kvashnin met with them on Thursday afternoon. The generals informed Mikhailov on fulfillment of agreements on the military package of issues reached in Moscow late May and in Nazran early June, reliable sources told Interfax.

Meanwhile, representatives of the state commission on a peace settlement in Chechnya and Chechen separatists continued consultations in Khankala, Groznyy's suburbs, discussing the date and place of a meeting between Vyacheslav Mikhailov and chief of the headquarters of Chechen separatists Aslan Maskhadov.

Sources in the federal forces headquarters in Chechnya told Interfax that taking into consideration the pace of these consultations, the meeting between Mikhailov and Maskhadov is unlikely to take place in the near future.

The federal delegation proposes to organize this meeting in Nazran, the Ingush capital. "The change in the place of negotiations may be incorrectly perceived by Ingushetia's leadership, primarily by President Ruslan Aushev who grants all conditions and opportunities for an efficient organization of the negotiation process," representatives of the delegation said.

Meanwhile, representatives of the Chechen opposition persist in holding the negotiations on Chechnya's territory. They explained their position by the absence of necessary security measures during the meetings in Nazran.

According to an Interfax correspondent, in response the federal delegation proposed to Chechen separatists to move from Chechnya to Nazran in a single column. Nevertheless the issue has not yet been solved.

Deputy heads of the working groups on exchange with POWs continued their meeting in Khankala. Colonel Vyacheslav Filipenko heads the working group representing Russia and Interior Minister of self-proclaimed "Republic of Ichkeria" Kazbek Makhashev represents the opposition.

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Russia: Chechen Separatists Protest Federal Delegation's Propaganda

LD2706110796 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1000 GMT 27 Jun 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Yuriy Arkhipov, our special correspondent in Groznyy, reports:

[Arkhipov] Since this morning, the journalists accredited to the Chechen Republic have been expecting Vyacheslav Mikhaylov and Aslan Maskhadov to hold talks. An agreement had been reached to hold these talks but they were suddenly postponed till 28 June. Here is the opinion of Movladi Udugov, the information minister of the Republic of Ichkeria, on the postponement of the talks:

[Begin Udugov recording] First of all, we have to report that the Chechen side today lodged an official protest to the Russian side through the mediation of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe [OSCE] mission in connection with the propaganda activities of the Russian delegation which, accompanied by representatives of the occupying regime, is going around military subunits in occupied Chechen territory and carrying out propaganda work. The Chechen side does not understand these propaganda activities. The statement by the Russian side's representatives is also not understood; all of a sudden they reverted to the kind of language they used at the times of active hostilities. That is why today we conveyed an official protest to the Russian side. [end recording]

Russia: Chechen Troop Withdrawal Schedule Depends on Situation

LD2606133196 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1314 GMT 26 Jun 96

[By Nikolay Zagnoyko]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] GROZNYY, June 26 (ITAR-TASS) — Commander of the Russian Defence Ministry troops stationed in Chechnya Major-General Vladimir Shamanov told Itar-Tass today that the Russian president's decree on the step-by-step withdrawal of federal troops from Chechnya would not affect combat capacity of the Army deployed in this region of Russia. Commenting on the president's decree signed on Tuesday Shamanov said that the decree does not envisage unilateral disarmament. The troops should be pulled out, taking into account the activities of the opposite side and its desire to rule out military confrontation, he said. The schedule for the troops' pullout will be drawn up depending on the situation and the proportion of the troops' reduction, Shamanov stressed.

In his opinion, federal troops have already demonstrated their readiness to follow the specified course, declaring the withdrawal of the 245th motor rifle regiment to its permanent base on June 28. The withdrawal is unconditional and confirms the preparedness of federal forces to reach peace and accord in Chechnya, Shamanov said.

Russia: Army Paper Comments on Latest Developments in Chechnya

MM2606123096 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Jun 96 p 1

[Report by Vladimir Gavrilenko and Anatoliy Stasovskiy: "Start Made to Phased Withdrawal of Troops from Chechnya. The Russian Federation President's Edict and the Statement by Lieutenant General Vyacheslav Tikhomirov, Commander of the Russian Federation Interim Joint Forces in Chechnya, Indicate This"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Russian side's goodwill gesture was made against the background of the separatists' complete intractability. They have not made any remotely perceptible practical efforts to implement any of the points in the agreements and accords which were signed in the Kremlin and in Nazran. Furthermore, the shelling and the acts of sabotage and provocation against the federal forces are continuing. Nor is there any letup in the separatists' brash campaign aimed at discrediting the desire of the federal forces and the authorities to resolve the conflict in the Chechen Republic by peaceful means. Movladi Udugov, so-called information minister of the so-called Republic of Ichkeria, has gone to utterly absurd lengths in this blatant propaganda stunt. Only someone who is completely ignorant of military matters and is smitten with a blatant prejudice against the Russian side can claim that a "subunit (?) of up to one division" ["do odnoy divizii"] has been introduced into Chechnya to replace the 245th Regiment. The separatists' hapless propagandist does not know that a "subunit" as large as a division is hardly a needle in a haystack and it is impossible in theory or in practice to introduce it without being noticed. Most of Udugov's other statements for the mass media are just the same.

Of course, Movladi Udugov has just one task: To promote the development of events according to the 1995 scenario by every means available. Lieutenant General Vyacheslav Tikhomirov recalled that time and cited the mistakes made then. They led to a new round of confrontation and new casualties. The commander believes that "the contradictions which emerged at the Nazran talks require a clear and precise answer to the question of whom we are dealing with and what government we are dealing with." In his opinion there

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is only one lawfully elected government in the Chechen Republic, the one headed by Doku Zavgayev. It cannot be excluded from the dialogue on the solution of the conflict, Vyacheslav Tikhomirov noted. "Any double-dealing in this policy will lead to fresh casualties," the commander stressed.

The consequence of the attempts to settle the Chechen problem without resolving the main — political — question is that the illegal armed formations now have a breathing space, a time to gather their forces, rebuild command and control, and replenish their ranks. According to the commander's information, the separatists are currently recruiting young boys aged between 11 and 14 years. At a news conference Vyacheslav Tikhomirov reported that he recently had a "frank, man-to-man discussion" with Aslan Kaskhadov during which he demanded that the chief of staff of the separatist formations finally state his position on the process of the settlement of the conflict and take steps toward peace or else stand down.

Lt. Gen. Vyacheslav Tikhomirov criticized the position of Tim Guldimann, head of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe [OSCE] mission in Groznyy. Undeniably he has played a significant role in the resumption of dialogue between the federal authorities and the separatists but nonetheless, the commander believes, Guldimann takes a "one-sided biased position which is not conducive to the solution of the conflict." On the prospects for the negotiating process, the commander expressed confidence that progress there will depend largely on the participation of Aleksandr Lebed, the new secretary of the Security Council and the Russian Federation president's national security aide, in the dialogue.

The withdrawal of the 245th Motorized Rifle Regiment, which was announced by Lt. Gen. Tikhomirov at the news conference, marks the beginning of the phased withdrawal of the federal forces from the Republic. As Sergey Medvedev, the Russian President's press secretary, announced 25 June, Boris Yeltsin has signed the edict "On the Withdrawal of Forces and Systems Belonging to the Interim Joint Forces Performing Tasks in the Disarmament of All Illegal Armed Formations on the Territory of the Chechen Republic." The president decreed that the phased withdrawal of the troops from their deployment locations begin from the moment the edict was signed (25 June). The edict notes that the withdrawal of the forces will be carried out as the situation in rayons and population centers of the Chechen Republic becomes stable. The withdrawal of combined units and other units belonging to the Leningrad, Moscow, Volga, and Urals Military Districts must be completed by 1 September 1996.

The Russian president has instructed the Russian Federation Government to implement measures connected with the phased withdrawal of the forces and systems belonging to the Interim Joint Forces and to adopt additional measures on the provision of facilities for the combined and other military units permanently stationed in Chechnya.

There is only one thing left for us to add: The Russian president remains true to his word and is resolutely continuing to keep the promises given at the end of May in Moscow.

Russia: Official Says Mass Grave Found Near Bamut

LD2706101996 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 27 Jun 96

[FBIS Translated Text] A mass grave of executed Chechens and Russians has been found in the village of Bamut in Achkhoy-Martanovskiy District by employees of the district police department. Said Khachukayev, head of the district administration, told INTERFAX that only one such grave had been found so far. Thirteen dead bodies have been unearthed from the grave. However, there are grounds to believe that more such graves can be found near the village. A preliminary investigation has established that practically all dead bodies have bullet wounds in the temples. These people are thought to have been shot dead even before the time when active hostilities resumed near Bamut this spring. The situation in Achkhoy-Martanovskiy District is calm in general, Khachukayev said. However, emergencies do take place. He said that on 26 June three helicopters fired at a Kamaz truck causing the deaths of a woman and a child. This information has not been confirmed from other sources.

Russia: Chernomyrdin Faces Angry Tractor Manufacturers in Vladimir

LD2606193496 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1755 GMT 26 Jun 96

[By Gennadiy Yezhov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] VLADIMIR, June 26 (ITAR-TASS) — Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin on Wednesday arrived for a celebration to the city of Vladimir but had to face the music instead, as angry workers demanded payment of delayed wages, pensions and allowances and protested against layoffs.

The planned celebrations were to mark the signing of a trilateral agreement by the government of the Russian Federation and the administrators of the works and the

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region on the revival of the local tractor-manufacturing works.

The Prime Minister, who signed for the Government, promised 38 billion roubles (7,600,000 dollars) in a federal loan to boost production starting in August. He said another 38 billion roubles would be mobilised through a regional issue of bonds.

"The works has made a good head start in designing and developing promising tractor models, including those which can be offered for sale to other countries," said Chernomyrdin who visited the city for the first time since he became Prime Minister and signed the first agreement of the kind with local manufacturers and administration.

The protesters who assembled on the shop floor to witness the signing had little patience for ceremony and promises. They wanted the Prime Minister to know that their wages had been delayed for four months and seven out of 15,000 workers had to leave the works. As for those who are still employed, the administration is planning to send them off on unpaid leaves next months and subsequently cut the personnel to five thousand.

Chernomyrdin responded to yells with more promises, saying that the first monetary resources disbursed from the federal budget in loan to the works would be used to pay in full the delayed wages.

Also today Chernomyrdin presided over a conference with the economic managers and local government officials in the building of the regional administration and visited an exhibition of industrial products manufactured by local producers.

A small group of supporters of presidential candidate Gennadiy Zyuganov picketed the building.

Economic Issues

Russia: 'Financial Stabilization' Questioned

MK2706105196 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 27 Jun 96 p 1

[Report by Rustam Narzikulov under the "Summit" rubric with the general heading: "Yet Another G-7 Forum To Open in Lyon Today. With Yeltsin Absent, Russia Cannot Expect It Seriously To Heed Its Interests"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The West and international finance organizations could well give Russia "excellent" marks for its macroeconomic record. Inflation rate is down to a fantastic low (the stated figure for June is 1.2 percent). The planned federal budget deficit (3.9 percent of GDP) is lower than similar indicators in Japan, Germany, France, and Italy; that is, four out of the G-7 countries.

The G-7 leaders are fully entitled to politely applaud Viktor Chernomyrdin and to blissfully forget about Russian problems for another year because they have plenty of their own. Hardly anyone at the Lyon summit would be interested to learn the price Russia has had to pay for fulfilling its macroeconomic obligations to the IMF. And the issue is not only the continuing slump in industrial production, because the Russian slump has become so commonplace a phenomenon that zero, not negative, economic growth would be perceived as a sensation.

The trick of the financial "stabilization" in the first half of 1996 is that in fact there has been no actual stabilization at all, particularly so if one takes into account the upcoming collapse of the money market. A total of over $10-billion worth of new rubles has been printed since the beginning of this year, while the market for state securities, which formerly served as the main source of paying off the budget deficit, has become a liability for the treasury.

However, the demonstration of the results of financial "stabilization" in Lyon will come in most handy. Russia badly needs a deferral in the repayments of its debts to the Paris Club of creditors; otherwise, the need to repay several billion dollars annually would deal a lethal blow to the country's budget system.

The rescheduling of its foreign debt will enable Russia to delay the repayment of the bulk of its debts for 25 years, but at the same time will deprive it of the right to individually try to collect the money that the Soviet Union had given to developing countries in the form of bank or commodity loans. The debts of the "Third World" countries to Russia exceed our country's debts to the West several-fold, for which reason many experts express their doubts as to the long-term advantages of Russia's joining the Paris Club.

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International Affairs

Ukraine: Kuchma Says Ukraine Needs Support From Other Nations

LD2606150396 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1409 GMT 26 Jun 96

["INTERFAX-UKRAINE" news item]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Warsaw, June 26 (Interfax-Ukraine)—There are certain political forces, who would not like to see Ukraine an independent democratic state. Such forces exist both in Ukraine—"which is evidenced by the pace of the constitutional process"—and in Russia. A statement to this effect was made by Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma in the course of his meeting in Warsaw last night with representatives of the Ukrainian community in Poland.

President Kuchma is currently on a two-day official visit in that country.

In this connection Leonid Kuchma pointed out that Ukraine, taking into account the situation within the country, badly needs "in the first place, political support" from other nations.

Attitude to Ukraine of some or other state depends in its many aspects on the Ukrainian communities abroad, President Kuchma observed. The President cited the United States and Canada as an example, where the Ukrainian communities "have made a tremendous contribution to the development of relations with Ukraine and pushed their governments towards closer contacts."

According to an INTERFAX-UKRAINE correspondent, on Wednesday President Kuchma is to take part in the ceremony of laying wreaths to the Unknown Soldier Tomb in Warsaw and meet and talk with Marszalek of the Sejm (Parliament) of the Republic of Poland Jozef Zych. On the agenda is also Leonid Kuchma's address to the joint meeting of ambassadors and senators of the Sejm.

Later in the day President Kuchma is to go back to Kiev.

Ukraine: Kuchma Denies Ukraine Seeking Associated NATO Membership

LD2606143996 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1348 GMT 26 Jun 96

[By Aleksandr Potemkin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] WARSAW, June 26 (Itar-Tass)—Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma denied media reports that his nation seeks associated membership in NATO.

In his 10-minute meeting with journalists in the Polish parliament on Wednesday, Kuchma said "I do not know where this language comes from," adding that such thing as associated membership in NATO "is absent from our political vocabulary."

At the same time, he confirmed that Ukraine wants to develop a "special partnership" with NATO which would provide for broader relations with the alliance than those under the present 16 plus 1 formula.

Kuchma confirmed that the attention that was paid, during his meetings in Poland, to relations with Russia is part of his "strategy."

Many problems facing Europe cannot be resolved without taking into account Russia's opinion and welcomed Poland's stance which, "while seeking integration with West European structures, takes into account the interests of the eastern part of the continent."

Earlier today, commenting on Ukrainian Foreign Minister Hennadiy Udovenko's offer to sign an agreement giving Kiev associated membership, NATO officials in Brussels said that NATO has no plans of granting associated membership to any country.

A country can either be a full member or no member at all, the officials said, adding that the Ukrainian minister might have meant regular discussions with NATO by the 16 plus 1 formula.

This form of cooperation was first established for Russia as a world nuclear power that wanted its relations with NATO to go beyond the Partnership for Peace programme which covers practically all Central and East European countries and ex-Soviet republics.

Later, the same formula was offered to Ukraine.

The officials said that the essence of NATO's relations with each of these two countries is determined by their size, real role in the international security system and real problems which need to be tackled outside the Partnership for Peace programme.

Ukraine: Iranian, Ukrainian, Turkmen Foreign Ministers Meet in Kiev

LD2706122396 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 27 Jun 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The trilateral meeting of the foreign ministers of Iran, Ukraine, and Turkmenistan was held in Kiev today. Our correspondent reports:

[Unidentified correspondent] During the session, which was also attended by economic experts from the three countries, ways of expanding economic cooperation, increasing the volume of trade and technical, industrial,

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banking, and customs cooperation between the three countries were discussed.

At the session, our country's foreign minister, ['Ali Akbar] Velayati, referred to the importance of regional cooperation in the expansion of ties between countries and improving the standard of living of people in the region. He said: One of the major pillars of the Islamic Republic of Iran's policy on its ties with the Commonwealth [CIS] countries is to support the expansion of ties, strengthening peace and stability in the region, and increasing the quality and quantity of its political, economic, and commercial relations with those countries.

He added: In addition to bilateral ties Iran, Ukraine, and Turkmenistan can, within the framework of the trilateral session, have extensive cooperation in the commercial, economic, and technical fields. Iran is prepared for a tenfold increase in trade and cooperation between the three countries.

Also at today's session Ukrainian Foreign Minister [Hennadiy Iosypovich] Udovenko and Turkmen Foreign Minister [Boris Shykh] Myradov referred to the importance of commissioning the big Mashhad-Tedzhen-Sarakh railroad project in the development and prosperity of the region. They called for an all-round increase in their economic and commercial ties with the Islamic Republic of Iran within the framework of the trilateral session.

The volume of trade between the three countries was $10 million last year. According to an agreement reached, the volume of trade will increase to $100 million this year.

Ukraine: Deputy Prime Minister Durdynets Meets EU Officials

WS2706091396 Kiev UKRINFORM in English 0620 GMT 27 Jun 96

[From the "Current Events" feature]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] As the Ukrainian cabinet press service reported, on June 25 First Vice-Premier Vasyl Durdynets met with Patrick Evrare, Vice-President of the European Union's Chamber of Auditors, and EU Ambassador to Ukraine Louis Mareno.

The meeting focused on social adaptation of the Ukrainian military who are subject to demobilization in view of reductions in the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

The parties to the meeting were unanimous in stating the need for spending, in a more efficient way, the money, which the European Union had allocated for these purposes within the TACIS [Technical Assistance for the CIS] program's framework.

The Ukrainian First Vice-Premier informed his interlocutors about the current situation in Ukraine.

In turn, the EU officers pledged the European Union's wholehearted support for Ukraine and its bid to both independent statehood and economic transformation.

Ukraine: Crimean Minister Lists Foreign Trade Priorities

WS2706090396 Lvov INFOBANK in English 0620 GMT 27 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Oleksandr Ryabkov, recently appointed acting Minister of Trade and Foreign Economic Relations by the Crimean Cabinet, said one of his priorities is to develop trade with countries which are close to the level of economic development Ukraine has.

He went on to say that his first trip made in office is going to be to Moscow where he will have talks with Moscow mayor Yuriy Luzhkov on the releasing of Crimean companies accounts frozen by former Vneshekonombank of the USSR (bank for foreign trade). In the Minister's view, Turkey is another most likely Crimean trade partner. Trade with Turkey could be increased 10 times in 1996 alone. The Minister also informed that an agreement on economic cooperation is to be signed soon with Bacs-Kiskun Region (Hungary).

Ukraine: GATT/WTO Experts Approve Taxation Reform

WS2706081096 Lvov INFOBANK in English 0620 GMT 27 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Ukrainian tax system reform due to take place before Ukraine joins GATT/WTO was approved by a group of GATT/WTO experts June 24. The reform was presented by Viktor Hladush, deputy Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, as the INFOBANK correspondent reports quoting his sources in this Ministry.

The tax reform will facilitate talks between Ukraine and WTO member states on mutual tax concessions that will open markets of member states to each other. It is expected that Ukraine and WTO member states will exchange the corresponding proposals in the nearest two or three weeks. According to Andrew Staller, the US trade representative in Geneva, Ukrainian entry into GATT/WTO is feasible in 1997. Mr. Staller is head of the negotiating group on the entry of Ukraine into these organizations.

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Ukraine: Kuchma Says Kiev Needs 'Close' Ties With Russia

LD2606164896 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1556 GMT 26 Jun 96

["INTERFAX-UKRAINE" news item]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] KIEV, June 26 (Interfax-Ukraine) — Ukraine needs broad, close, fruitful and friendly relations with Russia, Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma told reporters in Kiev on Wednesday [26 June].

Regarding Russian President Boris Yeltsin's national security message to the Russian parliament, in which Yeltsin spoke out in favor of "prospective alliance relations" between Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan, Kuchma told Interfax-Ukraine that "Yeltsin has the right to his point of view."

Cooperation with Russia is "pre-ordained" for Ukraine, Kuchma said, adding, however, that "this cannot be done at the expense of Ukraine's national interests."

"National interests must be a priority," the Ukrainian president said.

National Affairs

Ukraine: Kuchma's Representative in Parliament Submits Resignation

LD2706102996 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 0925 GMT 27 Jun 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev — People's Deputy Viktor Musiyaka, Kuchma's permanent representative at the Supreme Council, has submitted his resignation. He said this in an interview with UNIAN.

Musiyaka refrained from commenting on the reasons for his resignation and on the Ukrainian president's decree on holding an all-Ukrainian referendum on the draft constitution.

Ukraine: Parliament Fails To Pass Article on Private Land Ownership

LD2606213496 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2125 GMT 26 June 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] KIEV, 26 June (INTERFAX) — The Ukrainian Supreme Council failed to pass the constitutional formula stating that the right to private ownership, including the right to private ownership of land, will be acquired in a legal procedure.

The Ukrainian parliament passed in full or partially four articles of the constitutional bill of rights on Wednesday night.

Article 41, under which "nobody will be illegally deprived of the right to own property," and "the right to private property will be inalienable," was passed by 302 votes.

Following a break in the night session, the People's Movement of Ukraine (Rukh), the Statehood movement, and the Reforms group resumed the blocking of the session to press their demand that parliament debate the provisions on languages, state symbols, and private property which had been rejected by parliament earlier. If parliament does not agree, the rightist MPs will call for a vote on the entire constitutional draft.

Ukraine: Presidential Aide Views Plan for Referendum on Constitution

LD2606205596 Kiev UT-1 Television Network in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 26 Jun 96

[FBIS Translated Text] As we reported at the beginning of the program, Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma has decided to adopt the draft Ukrainian constitution through an all-Ukrainian referendum.

Our correspondent has returned from the president's administration, where the Council of Regions held its meeting.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] The meeting of the Council of Regions under the Ukrainian president, which took place right after the National Security Council session, was devoted to the constitutional process in Ukraine. Leaders at all levels who spoke at the meeting of the Council of Regions, which was chaired by Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma, spoke out in favor of holding an all-Ukrainian referendum on the constitution.

Dmytro Tabachnyk, chief of the Ukrainian president's administration, comments on the results of the meeting and the National Security Council session.

[Tabachnyk] The National Security Council stated that any further procrastination on the adoption of the new constitution of Ukraine would create a real threat to internal stability in the state and to the implementation of democratic transformations in society, and could lead to a deepening of the economic crisis and significant worsening of the people's living standards.

The National Security Council pointed out that the unwillingness of a part of the deputies' corps to cooperate with the president in a constructive manner made it impossible to take into account, during the second reading of the draft constitution in parliament, the president's fundamental remarks on the draft constitution that is being finalized by the parliament's provisional ad hoc

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commission which, moreover, was formed of representatives of only one party to the constitutional treaty — people's deputies of Ukraine.

Taking all this into account, the National Security Council recommended the Ukrainian president to make a decision on holding an all-Ukrainian referendum on approving the constitution. The National Security Council recommended the president to put to the all-Ukrainian referendum the draft constitution of Ukraine which was approved by the constitutional commission on 11 March and approved as a basis by the Supreme Council of Ukraine in April, in accordance with the constitutional treaty between the president and the Supreme Council of Ukraine.

The Council of Regions under the Ukrainian president also held a meeting today. It was also attended by Yevhen Kushnaryov, president of the Association of Towns of Ukraine, and Volodymyr Shumilkin, chairman of the Association of District Towns. The Council of Regions made a decision on the current state of the constitutional process in Ukraine. In its decision the Council of Regions pointed out that the constitutional process in Ukraine has reached a critical point. To date, after more than three months of debate in parliament, not a single section of the fundamental law of the state had been adopted.

Also, in connection with the fact that deputies unilaterally introduced amendments to the draft constitution that had been approved by the constitutional commission, the Council of Regions unanimously recommended that the president of Ukraine should hold an all-Ukrainian referendum on approving the Ukrainian constitution.

In its decision, the Council of Regions under the Ukrainian president pointed out that any further procrastination with the adoption of the new Ukrainian constitution is inadmissible. It could lead to an economic collapse and cast doubt on the very existence of an independent and democratic Ukraine.

The Council of Regions also decided to appeal to the constructive part of the deputies' corps, to the people's deputies of Ukraine, to support this decision, to support the president's stand on holding an all-Ukrainian referendum.

In line with the decision of the National Security Council and the decision of the Council of Regions, Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma today signed a decree on holding an all-Ukrainian referendum on approving the Ukrainian constitution. The referendum on approving the Ukrainian constitution is scheduled for 25 September. The president's decree says that the version of the draft constitution that was approved by the constitutional commission in March and approved as a basis by the majority of the Supreme Council in April will be put to the referendum, as the version of the draft constitution that was most coordinated between the parties to the constitutional treaty [between the president and the Supreme Council of Ukraine]. [end recording]

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Belarus

Belarus: Judge Opposes Constitutional Court Changes

WS2606122096 Minsk ZVYAZDA in Belarusian 21 Jun 96 p 3

[Interview with Belarusian Constitutional Court Chairman Valeryy Tsikhinya, by Valyantsin Zhdanko; place and date not given: "The Constitutional Court Is an Obstacle Only for Those Who Do Not Respect the Law Properly"]

[FBIS Translated Text] **The Constitutional Court has recently addressed the Supreme Soviet deputies with a number of proposals with regard to possible amendments to the Constitution and laws regulating the activity of the Constitutional Court. The amendments have been proposed by the Presidential Administration. If the draft laws proposed by the executive authority are passed, the role and importance of the Constitutional Court will be changed radically, and the current judges will most likely have to resign before the end of their term since the principles for forming the Constitutional Court will be essentially changed, as well. (According to a new draft law, one half of the judges will be elected by the Supreme Soviet, while the other will be appointed by the president.) A ZVYAZDA correspondent has asked Constitutional Court Chairman Valeryy Tsikhinya to comment on the situation.**

[Zhdanko] **Valeryy Huryevich, why have the draft laws envisioning radical changes in the system of constitutional control appeared just now? Is there any need for such changes?**

[Tsikhinya] In my opinion, this can be explained by the fact that today the Constitutional Court has become inconvenient for some people. It guards constitutional legality in the state, strives to ensure the supremacy of the Constitution, and defends the Republic's constitutional system. Therefore, it is natural that the Constitutional Court in its current form is an obstacle for those violating the Basic Law.

At the same time, we do not assert that the law "On the Constitutional Court" currently in force is legislatively flawless. It needs to be improved. However, one cannot reduce the role of the Constitutional Court to the function of an incomprehensible advisory body which asks for apologies and permissions instead of pronouncing decisions which have to be executed. This is inadmissible. Such a court would be a fiction, a deception. If the Supreme Soviet accepts the basic assumptions included in this draft law, we will reduce constitutional control to nothing.

[Zhdanko] **As is known, the Constitutional Court was recently joined by two judges. How have they adapted themselves to your collective? Has their appearance influenced the alignment of forces in the court and the atmosphere of court sessions?**

[Tsikhinya] Yes, they are already working. They were received favorably. We knew of them before as good specialists in the sphere of constitutional law. Moreover, they possess broad knowledge in the sphere of foreign constitutional law as well, which is important for the consideration of our cases. Therefore, we can only be proud of the fact that today, two years after the creation of the Constitutional Court, its composition has been completed.

[Zhdanko] **There were many attempts to exert psychological pressure on you last year. You was advised more than once to resign. Are such attempts being made now?**

[Tsikhinya] After December 1995, there have been no open attempts at that. In this sense, we can speak about a certain progress. Currently, nobody wants to hang a lock on the door of the Constitutional Court. Instead, a more refined attempt is being made to modernize the court on a "legislative" path — to modernize in such a way as to reduce to nothing the very idea of executing constitutional control in the Republic of Belarus.

[Zhdanko] **It is not likely, however, that the Supreme Soviet will accept such modernization in the current situation.**

[Tsikhinya] Yes, I am inclined to think that common sense will prevail and the deputies will not introduce these amendments, particularly since the proposed modernization would only worsen the institution of constitutional control in Belarus.

[Zhdanko] **In their appeal to the Supreme Soviet, the Constitutional Court judges proposed to impose a temporary moratorium on introducing amendments to the Constitution. In your opinion, why is it not expedient today to rework the Basic Law?**

[Tsikhinya] Under the current circumstances of instability, when many legal institutions in the state have not yet been formed, it is extremely inadvisable to refashion constitutional norms because this might bring serious negative consequences. There is also a lot of other similar examples. Imposing a moratorium on amendments to the Constitution would be a wise step on the part of the Supreme Soviet. At the same time, I do not deny that individual constitutional norms need to be improved. However, it is possible to overcome such a situation following the example of the U.S. Congress — by way of interpreting some norm or another. We might

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limit ourselves to this, not changing the constitutional norms in essence.

[Zhdanko] **Today's situation with both maintaining the rule of law and implementing the Constitutional Court's rulings in Belarus — according to many lawyers and independent observers — is extremely unfavorable. In your opinion, what is the way out of this situation?**

[Tsikhinya] Answering laconically, with one phrase, it is necessary for the top echelons of power to properly respect the law and for legal principles to prevail in the Republic. And, of course, it is necessary to enhance the legal culture in society at all levels — starting with the president and ending with a housewife. If we achieve this, we can expect an improvement of matters connected with the observance of law.

[Zhdanko] **Belarus is being spurred toward this by external circumstances, as well. A morbid reaction of the Council of Europe to the observance of human rights in Belarus and unambiguous remarks by Russian President Boris Yeltsin on this topic — all this testifies to some problems with the observance of the law. How do you treat such remarks from abroad?**

[Tsikhinya] It is difficult for me to answer this question because many problems regarding the observance of human rights in Belarus may tomorrow become a matter for consideration by the Constitutional Court. We, the judges, are not allowed to publicly express personal opinions about such questions. On the other hand, it is understandable that if we want to join the civilized states, violations of human rights cannot and should not take place in our society. This is a common truth. If this is not so, there is no foundation on which it is possible to build a law-governed state.

[Zhdanko] **Do you not treat these objections raised by the international community with regard to the observance of human rights in Belarus as reproaches addressed to you personally? The Constitutional Court should be a guardian of these rights, should it not?**

[Tsikhinya] Of course, I cannot relieve myself of responsibility. Since we are discussing violations of human rights which, in addition, are continuing, the Constitutional Court cannot claim that it has done everything to stop these violations. For this reason, there is no feeling of satisfaction in me. In order to increase the effectiveness of this work, the Supreme Soviet should immediately, even before closing its first session, adopt a law on responsibility for the nonimplementation of laws, including rulings by the Constitutional Court. If parliament does this, then I can guarantee that we can essentially improve the situation with the observance of the law.

Belarus: Lukashenka Comments on Criticism of Integration With Moscow

LD2606162496 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1446 GMT 26 Jun 96

[By Eduard Pivovar] txt)[FBIS Transcribed Text] MINSK, June 26 (Itar-Tass) — Expressing different opinions on integration between Russia and Belarus is a normal democratic phenomenon, Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka said in an interview to French journalist and political scientist Patrick Bruno on Wednesday.

The opposition criticises authorities in every democratic state, Lukashenka said.

The Belarusian leader branded as "groundless" statements by his opponents that Belarus loses its sovereignty in union with Russia.

The Russian-Belarusian agreements are far from bringing about integration similar to that in Western Europe, he said.

However, 80 percent of Belarusians support the moves aiming to bring the two countries closer, he added.

Asked about Belarus's defence capability, Lukashenka said that his country will not give up its nuclear-free status adding that the Belarusian leadership does not intend to back away from earlier agreements, and that the nuclear weapons will be pulled out from the country soon.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Lukashenka signed a treaty on April 2 at a lavish ceremony in the Kremlin to boost integration and bilateral cooperation.

Among other issues, the treaty provides for cooperation in policing borders and fighting crime, working out common principle of military policy, synchronising the stages and extent of economic reforms, creating single economic space and unified legislation on taxation and investment.

Belarusian nationalist activists were sharply opposed to the treaty, believing it deprives their country of it sovereignty.

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Belarus: Replacement of Premier Reportedly Expected by Mid-July

WS2706073496 Minsk BELAPAN in English 0620 GMT 27 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Minsk, 26 June — Reshuffles may take place in the Belarusian top-ranking leadership in the near future. As a BELAPAN correspondent was informed by a reliable source, these reshuffles will take place no later than July 15. This date is given because on July 10 it will be two years since Alyaksandr Lukashenka was elected as President. Two months after that the first Belarusian president declared that his first serious report to the voters will be made two years after his election. Since most of his preelection promises remain unfulfilled, the present chief of the Cabinet of Ministers, Mikhail Chyhir, is expected to become a scapegoat. An indirect confirmation of this can be found in a statement by the director of one of the Minsk largest enterprises who remarked that the last conference on industrial matters held by the prime minister was unexpectedly badly prepared, for the first time during the last two years. No decisions were taken during it and the prime minister looked extremely depressed.

According to the source, the list of candidates for the post of prime minister is reduced to two persons — Uladzimir Yarmoshyn, chairman of the Minsk-City Executive Committee, and Mikhail Marynich, minister for foreign economic relations. This supposition also has an indirect confirmation. The deputy chairman of the Belarusian Parliament, Henadz Karpenka, has recently had a private conversation with a representative of the President's closest entourage. During the conversation Henadz Karpenka was asked about his attitude towards the would-be proposal to fill the post of chairman of the Minsk-City Executive Committee. Mr Karpenka answered that he might agree if elected by Minsk people, not appointed by the President.

Pyotr Pyotukh, chief of the executive authorities of the Minsk region, is also expected to be relieved of his post. He is accused of insufficiently good economic results and his excessive gentleness. Mr Drazhyn, the director of a group of state-run hothouse plants in the settlement of Zhdanovichy near Minsk, is expected to take his place. A few months ago President Lukashenka paid a visit to this state enterprise. National television repeatedly showed Lukashenka saying that "people here do not work worse than Dutchmen."

According to information received from military circles, within the next few days MP Viktar Kuchynski is expected to be appointed as deputy defence minister for political and educational matters. Mr Kuchynski is a deputy to the Belarusian Supreme Soviet of the present and previous convocations. In 1990 he was nominated for parliamentary elections from a Kobryn-based military unit in which he served as company deputy commander for political and educational matters.

Moldova

Moldova: Snegur-Creanga Conflict 'On Verge of New Eruption'

LD2606184596 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1609 GMT 26 Jun 96

[By Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] CHISNINAU, June 26 (Itar-Tass) — The dormant conflict between Moldovan President Mircea Snegur and Defence Minister Pavle Creanga appears to be on the verge of a new eruption.

The conflict temperature rose abruptly after the Minister responded to the President's latest proposal for the parliament to relieve the Minister of his duties with a declaration that he would put a company of guards on red alert to protect the ministry from the President's "unconstitutional actions."

Creanga fired a shot at the order issued by President Snegur last week to forbid the minister to call meetings and disseminate information in the Army without prior approval from the President's staff.

The Minister declared that "the President's desire to take on the leadership in the national army causes apprehension" and runs contrary to the avowed position of the leadership of the armed forces in opposition to any involvement of the military in politics.

The president's adviser and security council secretary Aleksandru Gorgan stated that the order in question had been issued to "halt the continuing destabilisation of the Army." According to him, the President was set to assume direct control over the armed forces if Pavle Creanga failed to obey orders from the country's supreme commander-in-chief, i.e. himself.

President Mircea Snegur has repeatedly pushed for the resignation of the unruly minister who, he said, is incapable of fighting thievery and corruption in the Army. He fired the Minister by order in March but the move evoked protest on the part of Prime Minister Andrei Sangheli and the parliament majority, who declared that the move was "unlawful," as the Constitution stipulated that the President was entitled to fire and appoint Cabinet members only upon consulting the prime minister and the parliament majority.

The differences in the top echelons of power and Pavle Creanga's refusal to resign as a result of mud slinging

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led in those days to a rift and growth of tension in the Moldovan Army.

The situation around the Ministry of Defence was further complicated after the Constitutional Court of Moldova ruled that the President's order was at variance with law and told Snegur to reinstate the Defence Minister.

The President complied with the ruling in part relating to consultations with the Prime Minister and parliament and then again raised the question about firing the Minister.

The move is likely to further aggravate relations in the republic's top echelon of power which are already quite tense as the country is drawing closer to this year's presidential elections in which parliament speaker Petr Luchinskiy and Prime Minister Andrei Sangheli can reportedly compete against Snegur.

Moldova: Snegur Hopes To Develop Relations With Turkey

LD2606192296 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1638 GMT 26 Jun 96

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] [no dateline as received] Moldovan President Mircea Snegur met Tuesday with the deputy speaker of the Turkish parliament Kamer Genc.

A parliamentary delegation from Turkey is currently in Moldova on a working visit.

Mutually beneficial relations between the two countries will develop bilaterally, as well as in international organizations, Snegur said.

A sound legal basis for the development of multi-layered cooperation has been laid down, with relations between the two countries now regulated by a basic bilateral relations pact and 21 agreements, seven of which were signed during Snegur's visit to Turkey in May, it was noted at the meeting. A new impetus for Moldovan-Turkish relations will be the signing of an agreement for avoiding double taxation, now being developed by experts.

As for the solution to the Gagauz problem, this was achieved "on the basis of dialogue and mutual compromises between political forces under the conditions of respecting state unity," Snegur said.

Genc, appreciating Chisinau's efforts for a "fair resolution to the Gagauzia problem," declared that Turkey will never support forces attempting to divide Moldova. (The Gagauz people, densely populating southern Moldova, speak a language almost identical to Turkish but their religion is Orthodox Christianity - IF.)

The Turkish parliament has already ratified the basic bilateral relations pact signed by Turkish President Suleyman Demirel during his visit to Moldova, Genc said.

The two also discussed ways to use the $35 million loan Turkey has promised Moldova. A political solution to the Gagauz problem was a condition for the loan's disbursement.

The Turkish delegation also met Tuesday with Moldovan parliamentary speaker Petr Luchinskiy, and representatives of other parliamentary factions and commissions.

The delegation will visit Gagauzia Wednesday. IF Note: Turkey holds 20th place in trade with Moldova, according to the Moldovan Economics Ministry. There are 25 Turkish-Moldovan joint ventures currently operating in Moldova. Turkish investment in the Moldovan economy is over $160 million.

Moldova: Snegur, Turkish Parliament Leader Discuss Gagauz Issue

AU2706083696 Chisinau INFOTAG in English 1905 GMT 25 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chisinau, June 25 (INFOTAG) — Moldova and Turkey stand up for developing cooperation both bilaterally and in international organizations, President Mircea Snegur and the Deputy Chairman of the Turkish Supreme National Assembly, Kamer Genc, stated at their meeting today.

Speaking about the development of the bilateral relations and the results of the Moldovan official delegation's recent visit to Turkey, the sides pointed out that an appropriate legal framework has already been created between the two nations to collaborate.

The Turkish Parliament has ratified the basic political treaty signed last year during President Suleyman Demirel's official visit to Moldova. This framework will be soon supplemented by signing an agreement on double taxation avoidance.

The sides also discussed issues related to the $35 million loan, which Turkey promised to supply to Moldova.

Speaking about the Gagauz problem, Mircea Snegur said it was settled through negotiations, reciprocal compromises, and political will, on condition of preserving the territorial integrity of Moldova.

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Kamer Genc thanked the Moldovan leadership for the fair solution of the Gagauz problem, having emphasized that Turkey will never back forces seeking to split Moldova.

On Tuesday, the delegation of the Turkish Supreme National Assembly headed by Kamer Genc was received by Moldovan Parliament Chairman Petru Lucinschi.

Lucinschi has welcomed the decision of the Supreme National Assembly to set up a parliamentary group of friendship with the Republic of Moldova. He expressed wish that such groups in the two parliaments control the implementation of bilateral agreements between Moldova and Turkey, which practice will allow to upgrade the legal framework of the cooperation.

Kamer Genc has highly appreciated Moldova's policy in the field of protecting the rights of ethnic minorities, their languages, and cultures.

The Turkish guest has confirmed his country's support of the Moldovan independence and territorial integrity, having emphasized the importance of resolving the Dniester problem in conformity with these principles.

The Turkish delegation had meetings with Moldovan parliamentary factions today.

Moldova: Parliament Rejects Opposition Call for Cabinet To Resign

AU2706084996 Chisinau INFOTAG in English 1932 GMT 26 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chisinau, June 26 (INFOTAG) — The Moldovan Parliament has declined the proposal on government resignation made by deputy Valeriu Matei, chairman of the Party of Democratic Forces [PFD]. Matei put forward this motion today when the forum was debating the annual report made by the State Calculation Chamber.

"In any civilized country, where the government was found guilty of so many abuses of office, the cabinet would indisputably file in resignation itself," he stressed.

However, the motion was not put for voting. Parliament Deputy Chairman Dumitru Motpan, who conducted the sitting, has stated that the findings of the chamber alone were insufficient for a resignation, as an investigation of appropriate law-enforcement bodies were necessary for that.

A special parliamentary commission has proposed two draft resolutions. One of them reads that due to abuses, shortcomings, and improper utilization of financial and material means, it is worth recognizing as expedient to replace the following ministers: defense — Pavel Creanga, interior — Constantin Antoci, finance — Valeriu Chitan, privatization and state property administration — Ceslav Ciobanu, labor, social protection and family — Dumitru Nidelcu, and the deputy director of the Social Fund — Vasile Vasiloi.

The government has been requested to consider the abuses, and submit appropriate replacement proposals to Parliament.

However, this variant has been backed by only 30 deputies. Then, with 58 ayes against 14 noes, the forum passed the second variant, which approved the chamber's report, and requested the General Prosecutor's Office to submit, before 1 October, a report on measures taken on the results of the chamber's checks.

Before 15 September Parliament is planning to hear the National Bank's activities and implementation of the banking legislation by industry directors.

Moldova: Presidential Election To Be Held on 17 Nov

LD2606152896 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1514 GMT 26 Jun 96

[By Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] CHISINAU, June 26 (Itar-Tass) — Moldova's parliament on Wednesday [26 June] adopted a resolution fixing November 17, 1996 as a date for the nations's presidential elections.

If none of the candidates wins over 50 percent of the vote, a run-off election will be held on December 1, according to the resolution. To make a run-off valid, at least one-third of the voters should participate.

Speaker Petru Luchinskiy said on Tuesday that the Election Law, which was passed by parliament and approved by President Mircea Snegur, is a compromise which is able to ensure civil peace and accord in the republic at this crucial moment.

Lawmakers were engaged in heated debated while discussing the law. The president will be elected for four years. The term of office of the incumbent president expire on January 15, 1997, they decided.

A Moldovan citizen, who is older than 35 and who has lived in the country at least 10 years, can run for president. Other conditions are mastering the Moldavian language and being put up for presidency by at least 20,000 supporters from no less than one-third of the country's regions.

Snegur, Luchinskiy, Prime Minister Andrey Sangeli and opposition leader Valeriu Matei are likely to run for the Moldavian presidency, observers say.

More candidates may appear soon, including independent ones, they say.

Although the Election Law has just been passed, electioneering is in full swing in Moldova.

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Tajikistan

Tajikistan: CIS Units To Help Prevent Incursions From Afghanistan

MM2606132596 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Jun 96 p 3

[Report by Aleksandr Pelts and Anatoliy Prokopyev of the Russian Federation Federal Border Service Press Service, under the "Events and Commentaries" rubric: "Who Holds the 'Key to Pamir'? Armed Clashes Between Government Troops and Armed Opposition Detachments Have Resumed in the Mountain Regions East of Dushanbe"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The logic of events is simple: Official Dushanbe is striving to prevent the creation of a real confrontation line within Tajikistan. The opposition, in turn, intends to strengthen it and accomplish two strategic tasks at the same time. The first is to cut off the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast from the plains of Tajikistan by seizing Tavil-Dara. The opposition's second aim is to establish and expand a bridgehead for a continued advance toward Dushanbe. However, this is not easy and the events which have unfolded in the past few days near the population centers of Tavil-Dara and Sagirdasht fit perfectly into the scenario of a protracted position warfare when neither side can seize the initiative by means of forthright actions.

As is well known, in such circumstances tremendous significance attaches to propaganda "attacks" and to "encouraging" reports from the battlefield (in this case, from the mountains). This is what is happening.

The armed opposition press service took the lead here. Its spokesman reported that Tajikistani government forces in the Tavil-Dara region "failed to accomplish their set task and suffered major losses." According to the United Tajik Opposition press service, 21 soldiers were killed and one armored personnel carrier was destroyed when "Dushanbe's crack troops were resolutely rebuffed."

Zafar Saidov, the Tajikistan president's press secretary, immediately launched a retaliatory "attack." He rejected the United Tajik Opposition leaders' accusation that the government forces are stepping up their offensive operations in Tavildarskiy Rayon. There have been no significant changes in the situation there, he said, and the troops' actions are a "retaliation and a warning." At the same time Zafar Saidov conceded in conversation with an ITAR-TASS correspondent that 11 Tajikistan Security Ministry and Defense Ministry servicemen have been wounded in "local armed clashes" in the past week.

Analyzing the current situation the following quite definite conclusion may be drawn: The struggle for the "key to Pamir" goes on. Given the opposition's obvious intentions there could be "local armed clashes" in the near future in Komsomolabadskiy and Garmskiy rayons in the Pamir foothills.

Of course, the obvious complication of the situation in the Pamir foothills is of great concern to the Russian border guard troops who are defending the Tajik-Afghan border. According to their information, the Pamir gunmen have been ordered to ensure the uninterrupted movement of armed groups who have broken through the border and to be ready for possible involvement in combat actions against Russian border guard troops subunits.

In this connection the Russian Federal Border Service leadership has stated that the Russian border guard troops, together with Tajikistan's legitimate authorities and border guard subunits and with military contingents from Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan which are on the republic's territory according to the decision of the CIS heads of state, will undertake all measures to prevent the destabilization of the situation on the border. Attempted armed incursions across the border will be firmly prevented using all available forces and means. The Collective Peacekeeping Forces' command also confirmed its readiness to give the necessary help to border guards.

Tajikistan: Opposition Leader Says Fighting Continues in Tavil Dara

LD2606145596 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1254 GMT 26 Jun 96

[By Oleg Kuzmin]

[FBIS Translated Text] Tehran, 26 Jun (Itar-Tass) — Haji Akbar Turajonzoda, deputy leader of the united Tajik opposition, today said in Tehran that fighting between government forces and detachments of the Tajik opposition has been going on over the past few days in Tavil Dara district located approximately 160-km away from Dushanbe. Attempts of the government troops to move to Tavil Dara via the Karanak pass have not been successful, he said. The opposition forces are launching a counterattack.

Haji Akbar Turajonzoda said that both sides had suffered casualties. Moreover, two civilians have been killed and another three injured during the artillery shelling of the district center of Tavil Dara, he added. There is no accurate information so far about the number of the killed during today's fighting, he noted.

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Tajikistan: New Commission Formed to Implement CIS Agreements

LD2706091796 Dushanbe KHOVAR in Russian 1030 GMT 25 Jun 96

["Towards Integration and Economic Development" — KHOVAR headline]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [no dateline as received] The working visit to Moscow by Yuriy Ponosov, first deputy prime minister of the republic [of Tajikistan] was devoted to discussing practical implementation of the provisions of the protocol "of the working meeting between Aleksey Bolshakov, deputy prime minister of the Russian Federation, and Prime Minister Yahyo Azimov of the Republic of Tajikistan" of 31 May 1996 and of the protocols ready for signing according to which Tajikistan is joining the customs union.

"In the final analysis, we are talking about deepening integration and creating a CIS economic union," said Yuriy Ponosov during a conversation with a KHOVAR news agency correspondent. [passage omitted]

"The integration processes are all enveloping and are taking place throughout the CIS. It is not by chance," Yuriy Ponosov said, "that having realized the importance of our participation in them, the government resolution of 18 June 1996 set up a special commission of the republic to implement on time the interstate and intergovernment treaties and agreements being adopted within the CIS framework and to coordinate the setting up of the economic union. The commission includes heads of ministries and departments, committees and leading companies, research institutions, and a number of subdivisions of the presidential executive apparatus. [passage omitted]

Touching directly on his visit to Moscow, he said that, following the consultations and talks, the texts of three protocols were prepared: "On cooperation in developing the production potential of the Republic of Tajikistan between the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tajikistan", the "Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan to transfer state property of the Republic of Tajikistan to cover settlements with the Russian Federation", and the protocol attached to this agreement "On the procedure for transferring state property of the Republic of Tajikistan to cover settlements with the Russian Federation". Yuriy Ponosov explained that by state property of the Republic of Tajikistan one should understand shares in state and commercial enterprises or other rights of state ownership.

The first deputy prime minister said that other ways of covering Tajikistan's debts to the Russian Federation were envisioned. Part payment of the main debt and of interest on state credits received will be made in the time envisioned by the treaties. The payment deadline for the other part of the credit has been postponed until the year 2000 and later.

An agreement was also reached in Moscow to implement Article 9 of the intergovernment agreement on state technical credit signed back in 1994. The Russian side has already transferred 3.6 billion rubles to the account of one of its departments to purchase the necessary equipment for Tajikistan. The economy ministries of both countries are presently discussing the transfer to Tajikistan of the remaining part of the credit amounting to 10.8 billion rubles. The question of technical credits for 1996 and other years is already in the final phase of the first stage. [passage omitted]

Tajikistan: Members of Cease-fire Commission Arrive From Afghanistan

LD2706093696 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0903 GMT 27 Jun 96

[By Galina Gridneva]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] DUSHANBE, June 27 (Itar-Tass) — Representatives of the opposition in the joint commission monitoring the implementation of the Tehran agreement on the ceasefire arrived today in Tajikistan from Afghanistan. Representatives of the opposition were expected to arrive on June 25. They were detained by the fact that there were clashes on a stretch of Talukan-Kondoz route between the warring sides of Afghanistan.

Special envoy of the U.N. Secretary-General Dietrich Merrem today leaves for Afghanistan. He is going to hold consultations in the Afghan capital Kabul, and later in other observer countries with their leaders and with chiefs of the opposition prior to the resumption of another round of inter-Tajik talks in Ashgabat on July 8.

The Tajikistan Public Council, a consultative and coordinating body of the participants in the agreement on public accord, expressed its attitude to the inter-Tajik settlement. Leaders of political parties, public organisations, creative workers unions, religious organisations and national and cultural communities issued an address to the delegations to the inter-Tajik talks, urging leaders of the opposition to join the agreement on public accord and sign the ceasefire agreement without any strings attached for the period of the negotiating process.

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